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ARE LITTLE LIBRARIES ELITIST?
 metroLIFE




Maria Dimancheva, 14, from Branton Junior High School solders at SAIT's Explore IT event on Wednesday.
 JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

SOLDER ON, GIRLS

Schools encourage young women to stick with STEM

metroNEWS

Green Line trimmed for Phase 1

INFRASTRUCTURE
Council to hear details Monday



Helen Pike
 Metro | Calgary

Administration is ready to present the first phase of Calgary's proposed Green Line, which will cost \$4.59 billion and run from Shepard to 16th Avenue N., Metro has learned. Those details will be presented to council Monday after being sent ahead to the province. Mayor Naheed Nenshi told reporters that Monday's strategic meeting would be a big news day, with updates on staging, phasing and financing for the Green Line. He said no decisions will be made during that meeting.

Building from Shepard to 16th Avenue wouldn't be quite what the city promised its citizens. The Green Line concept has always been a dream to connect the community of Seton in the south to Keystone in the north. So far, the city has only secured two-thirds of the funding they need to get their engine going. The city has earmarked \$1.56 billion over 30 years, and the federal government has promised \$1.53 billion over 11 years. The province has not made any funding promises. Metro reached out to Infrastructure and Transportation Minister Brian Mason for comment but was told he won't be making any public statements until he's had more time to look over the details — and council's made a decision. Council will make its final decisions on the Green Line in June.

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Cutting edge or casting shadows?

BANKVIEW

Residents see problems with proposed development



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

It's not your average condo building, but people in Bankview are more worried about parking and sunlight than having a new, unique structure in their neighbourhood.

RNDSQR's plans to build The Village is being met by opposition from the Bankview Community Association.

The community just south of 17 Avenue and west of 14 Street SW is seeing lots of its older properties being replaced with new, denser infills, townhouses and apartments.

But Fergal Duff, the newly elected chair of the Bankview Community Association's development committee, said The Village is presenting too many concerns for residents, including parking, increased traffic and shadowing.

"I think there's a serious overshadowing issue in relation to the buildings to the north, both just in terms of the height of the proposed development, but also the existing topography," he said.

Duff said a new set of townhouses have a common courtyard, which will now be in shadow for much of the day.

Context is another concern.



RNDSQR's The Village development could be built on the northeast corner of 19 Ave and 14 Street SW. COURTESY RNDSQR

"It's quite a big jump to go from the smaller, two-storey buildings across the street to a six-storey multifamily build-

ing on that corner," said Duff. He suspected the project will get approval when it goes to Calgary Planning Commission

in June, but they will continue to voice concerns.

Dave White, principal with CivicWorks Planning and De-

sign, which has been hired to lead planning and engagement on the project, said the building will fit in with the

BY THE NUMBERS

78

Units in the entire structure, including apartment, studios and lofts

65

Underground parking stalls planned

densifying main streets along 17 Avenue and 14 Street SW.

The city's Main Streets program is an ongoing plan to revitalize and rezone areas along Calgary's identified main streets, although the plan is still being rolled out.

"We're basically at the crux — the intersection — of two identified main streets," said White. To talk about a mid-rise building about six stories in height with 80 units, it's really not out of character."

White said they've gone through the rigor of a professional transportation engineering analysis to arrive at their published conclusions on parking and traffic in the area.

He said RNDSQR is really rethinking the basics of how projects can be built in ways that present better living spaces.

"This is not the more typical, formulaic, easy, copy-and-paste type work you're seeing in other parts of the city," said White.




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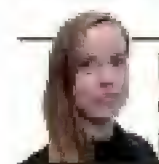
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Abortion doulas ready to help

MEDICAL CARE

Province one of the few to offer free medical option



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

You're probably familiar with birth doulas — but have you heard of an abortion doula?

The province recently announced it would be providing Mifegymiso — a two-drug combination that induces a medical abortion up until the seventh week of pregnancy — for no charge.

Jessica Shaw, a founding member of Action Canada on Sexual Health and Rights (AC-SHR) and associate professor at the faculty of social work at the University of Calgary, said some women will want and need support during the process, and others won't. The

prescription, typically taken at home on two separate days, essentially induces a miscarriage.

"What I hope is that that person is surrounded by as many loving family and friends that they want to have around," Shaw said.

If they don't have that support, there are abortion doulas who will provide it.

Andi Johnson has been a full-spectrum doula for eight years and said it's impossible to know how someone will feel during or after an abortion because it's such a personal experience.

"Some people are affected big-time with an abortion, so it's good to have support systems in place, and some people are completely relieved — it's not a one-size-fits-all kind of thing."

The shame and stigma surrounding abortion means it's not always easy to find support, according to Johnson.

"Maybe they don't have a really supportive friend or family or a partner who is both supportive and knowledgeable," she said. "My role is to be their biggest advocate and their biggest cheerleader — no matter what they're feeling about themselves or what other people are telling them about themselves."

Currently, surgical abortions are provided in Canada up to the 24th week of pregnancy.

Health information officer for Action Canada on Sexual Health and Rights (ACSHR) Frederique Chabot said providing medical abortion is about giving women more choices.

"For some people, surgical abortion is much more preferable and for some, medical abortion is much more preferable," Chabot said.

She said because physicians across the province will be able to prescribe Mifegymiso, women in rural areas won't



“My role is to be their biggest advocate and their biggest cheerleader.”
Andi Johnson

Andi Johnson has been a full-spectrum doula for eight years and said it's impossible to know how someone will feel during or after an abortion because it's such a personal experience. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

+ MIFEGYMISO

According to Action Canada for Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights, one-third of women of reproductive age will have an abortion in their lifetime.

Health Canada approved Mifegymiso for use in July 2015, but the uptake has been slow because it isn't cheap; it costs \$325 out-of-pocket.

Mifegymiso has been available in France for nearly 30 years and is approved for use in more than 50 countries worldwide, with some restrictions.

have to travel such long distances, miss work, or find child care to access the service.

Health Minister Sarah Hoffman said a follow-up appointment — ideally with the same doctor who wrote the prescription — will be mandatory.

"There's also going to be a requirement for physicians that don't feel comfortable directing pa-

tients in this option for them to refer to others who will," the minister told Metro

— a similar approach the province took with physicians concerned about providing medically-assisted deaths.

She said the drug-plan details are still being worked out, but the two-step prescription will be available to Albertans for no charge within the next few months.

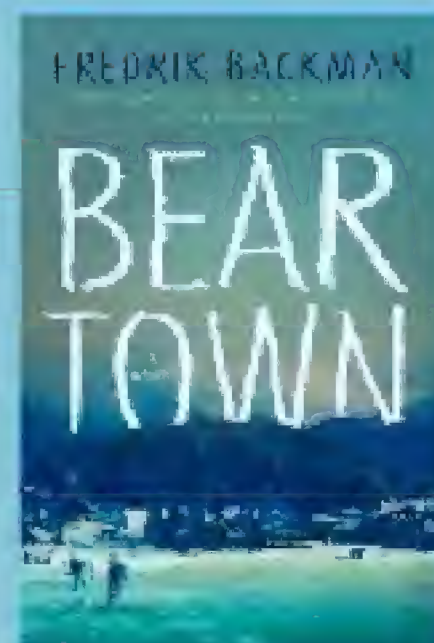
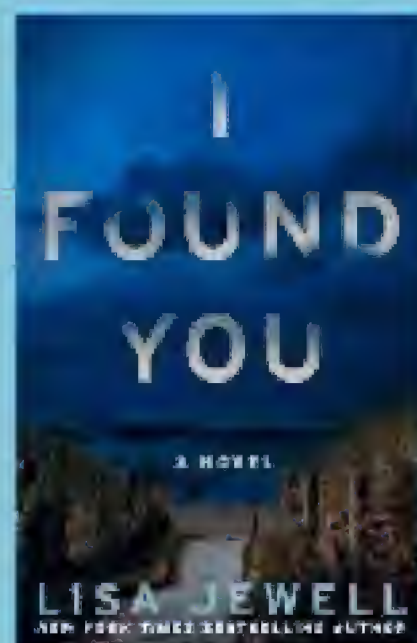
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In Canada, surgical abortions can be performed up to the 24th week of a pregnancy.

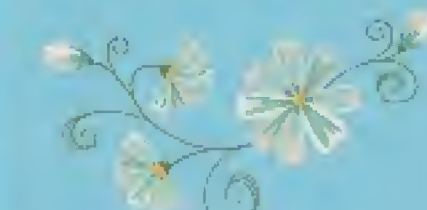


The abortion-inducing drug Mifegymiso — as it's known in Canada — is more commonly known as RU486. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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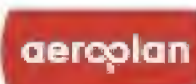
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Sammy Hetherington, left, and Dan Allard, co-owner of Cold Garden Beverage Company, sit inside the brewery as their dogs, Rooney and Harlem sit outside JENNIFER FREISEN/METRO

Dog gone: Canines banned at brewery

ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES

Cold Garden to contest move as pooches are very popular



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

The Cold Garden Beverage Company is hoping they're not chasing their own tail in an effort to continue allowing dog owners to bring their pets with them to the local brewery's new tasting room.

Located in Inglewood, the brewery opened the tasting space three months ago in addition to their production facility.

During construction of the room, co-owner Dan Allard said staff often brought their dogs with them for company and when it opened to the public, the pups simply became part of the atmosphere. Soon enough,

customers stopping in for a beer-tasting were bringing their pooches too. "It wasn't part of the business model, but it was kind of a natural thing for customers who happened to have their dog with them to come in and try our beer," Allard told Metro. "People loved it."

Cold Garden doesn't serve any food, so customers are invited to bring neighbourhood eats in with them to enjoy alongside their brew samples. Allard said pets

have never been allowed in the brewing area, which is separate from the tasting room. However, Cold Garden was recently told by Alberta Health Services (AHS) that the dogs would have to go.

As regulated by the province's Public Health Act, live animals aren't allowed in food areas unless they're a service

animal or the health body specifically authorizes it.

"Cold Garden brewery was not originally a food-permitted facility," read a statement AHS provided to Metro. "What was originally approved by AHS and the City of Calgary, it is now considered an operation requiring a food permit, and therefore, the allowance for any live animal must be approved by AHS."

Proposals are individually assessed based on risk to public health and the extent those risks can be mitigated, according to AHS. But every dog has their day, and Allard said he's optimistic they'll be able to get an exception. "(AHS) has been working with us and have been very helpful," he said.

He plans to submit a written exemption proposal to AHS as soon as next week.

“

It wasn't part of the business model, but it was kind of a natural thing

Brewery co-owner Dan Allard

ELECTION

Time running out but Nenshi says council will soon make big calls



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Tick tock council, if you want to be the ones making big decisions for the city.

On Tuesday, Calgary's city manager Jeff Fielding reminded council that the clock on some very important projects is running down and they don't have time to go into overtime — especially if council wants to make some arena funding de-

cisions. Mayor Naheed Nenshi told reporters he didn't quite agree, but noted that this council will run up against time soon enough.

"It is true that this council stops in September, and then would not be in a position to be in a decision-making meeting until November," said Nenshi.

"At that point, if you're a brand new council and it's your first meeting, it's hard for me to imagine they would want to deal with that at their first

meeting."

In late April, council unanimously approved administration's pitch to plop a new arena in Victoria Park, where it would be integrated into the River District Revitalization plans being led by the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation.

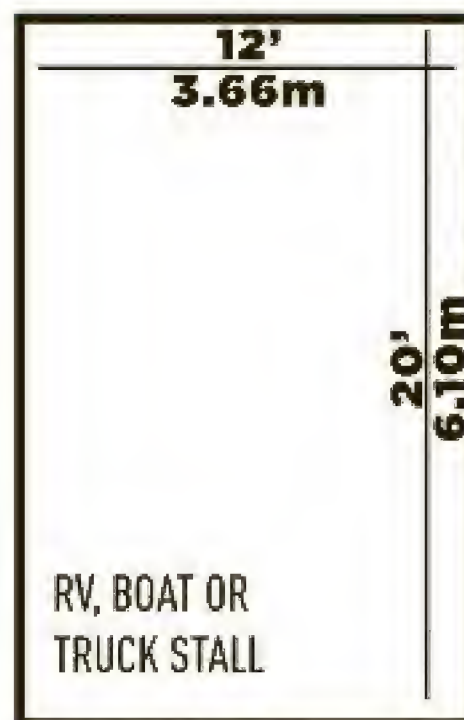
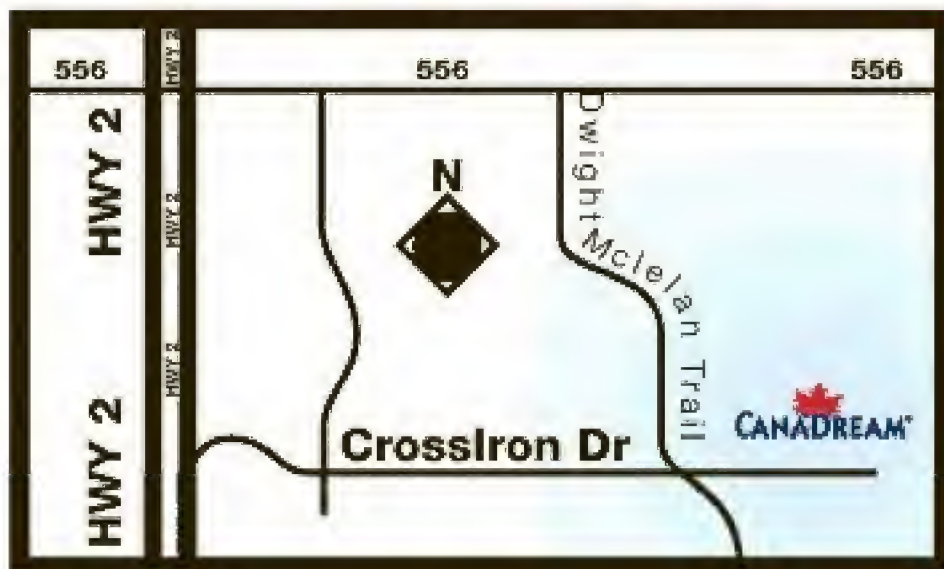
Council has a horizon of costly projects to make decisions on including the Green Line, whether or not we host the Olympics and, of course, that pesky arena question.

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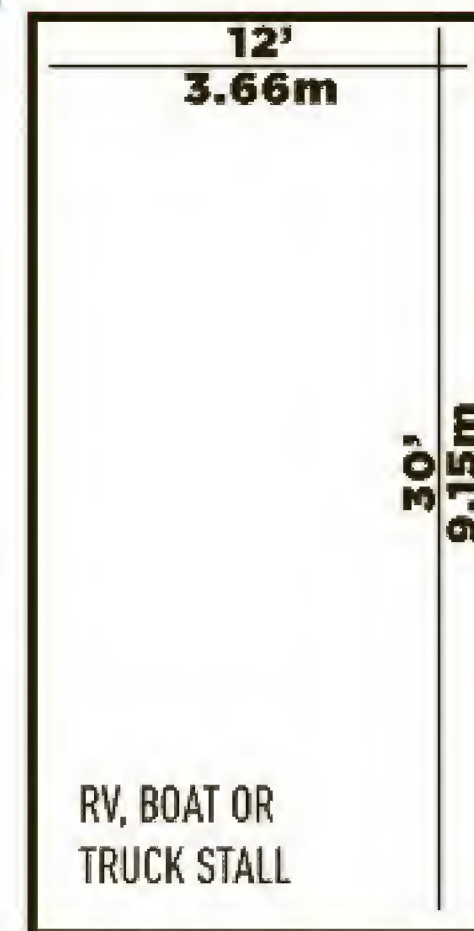


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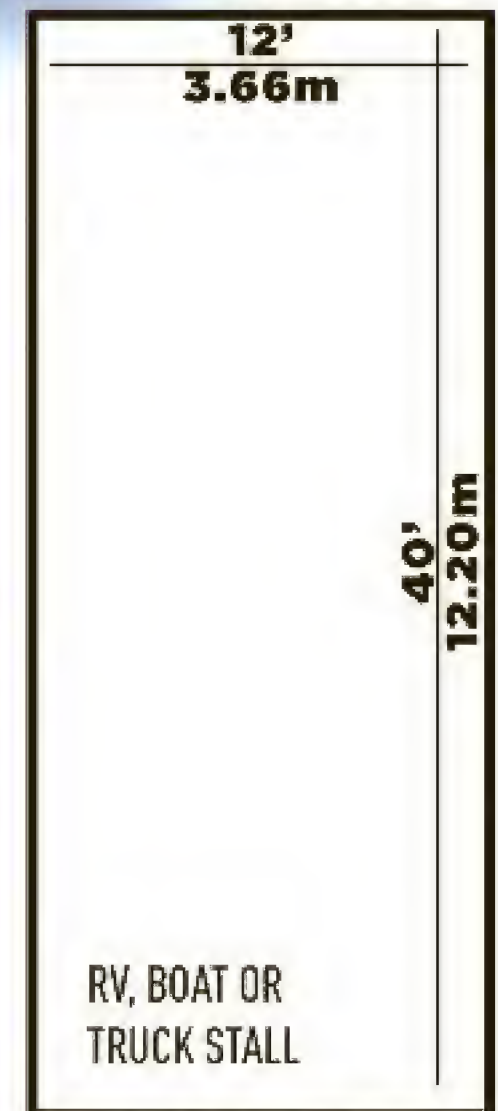
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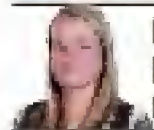
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Former CPS officer granted chance to appeal dismissal

COURT

Sgt. Anthony Braile was fired after a 7-year leave with pay



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

A Calgary police officer who was fired after seven years of being on disciplinary leave with pay — for his role in a high-speed chase of a suspected drunk driver that resulted in a crash between the suspect and a taxi — has been granted the opportunity to appeal his dismissal.

The former sergeant, Anthony Braile, was suspended with pay in December of 2008 after an investigation into profession-

A criminal prosecution resulted with Braile ultimately pleading guilty to a charge of careless driving under the Traffic Safety Act (TSA), and his official dismissal in his 20th year on the force.

In his request to be able to appeal the decision, Braile said he suffered from a mental disorder at the time of the incident and had been recently hospitalized for suicidal thoughts and his mental disorder. He argues that he should not have been put back on active duty so quickly after returning from mental-health leave.

In the decision to allow Braile to appeal his dismissal, Justice Sheila Martin said Braile's presiding officer found that Braile was suffering from a mental disorder at the relevant time.

Martin said the court will allow arguments that the board

“In the future, what doctors recommend should be taken into huge consideration. Les Kaminski

al misconduct was launched against him for his role in the crash — that left the taxi driver seriously injured. The incident occurred just six months after Braile returned from mental-health leave.

Braile remained suspended with pay until he was dismissed in early February of 2016 following a disciplinary hearing where he admitted to nine counts of professional misconduct.

was mistaken in upholding Braile's dismissal because they placed the burden on Braile to prove his innocence rather than on CPS to prove his guilt.

President of the Calgary Police Association, Les Kaminski, said they're happy about the decision to allow the appeal. He said Braile was put into a "tough situation."

"The service was very intent — because of man power issues — on getting bodies back on to the



Calgary Police Service headquarters Westwinds. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO
Inset: Sgt. Anthony Braile can now appeal his dismissal from CPS. CONTRIBUTED

streets," he said. "I think that in the future what doctors recommend should be taken into huge consideration. I don't know if it was the best decision to put Tony back on the street. Obviously it turned out very badly."

Kaminski said he isn't sure if Braile would be fit to return to

duty, or if he would want to, but that the point has always been to appeal the reason for dismissal.

At the time of Braile's dismissal, Chief Roger Chaffin said if Braile does appeal the decision the force would "certainly not lay down."

"We'll be represented there

and we'll work on it," he said. "If the case gets appealed we're going to bring forth the same case we did here and the same energy to that."

Metro reached out to CPS who said they couldn't comment on the matter as it's now before the courts.

ELECTION

Business sector cautious

British Columbia's election has brought unwelcome doubt for the business sector, given the prospect of an ascendant Green party influencing policy on pipelines, natural gas exports, hydroelectricity and other resource projects.

Christy Clark's Liberal party took 43 seats, two ahead of the NDP, but just shy of the 44 seats needed to take a majority. Recounts and absentee ballots could still sway the final tally, but as it stands, the Greens hold the balance of power with their three seats — though party leader Andrew Weaver has said he is open to compromise.

The results create more unpredictability for the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion, shale gas development and the Site C hydro dam that is already under construction, said Martin Pelletier, managing director at TriVest Wealth Council.

While the political picture was muddled, the reaction from those with the most at stake was clear: cautious.

Alberta NDP Premier Rachel Notley and Ian Anderson, president of Kinder Morgan Canada, issued brief statements congratulating all three parties, taking care not to make mention of a specific winner.

Notley supports the Kinder Morgan-led Trans Mountain development, a project that has faced blowback in some parts of B.C. Construction of the pipeline expansion is expected to begin in September. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Kinsmen Lotto kicks off campaign

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Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

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dren's Hospital through the Kinsmen Lotto.

Lisa Brunet-Lunn saw the results of that support firsthand when her daughter, Madison, needed care at the age of two.

"She woke up with a cough one day. Just a simple cold," said Brunet-Lunn.

But by the end of the day, she was intubated.

Doctors told the family that Madison's lungs were

failing, but they had a piece of equipment which could temporarily function as her heart and lungs, giving them time to heal.

She was on the Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) for eight days. Now, she's a happy and healthy four-year-old.

"There aren't many hospitals that offer a ECLS program," said Brunet-Lunn.

Albertans hoping to show their support for the hospital

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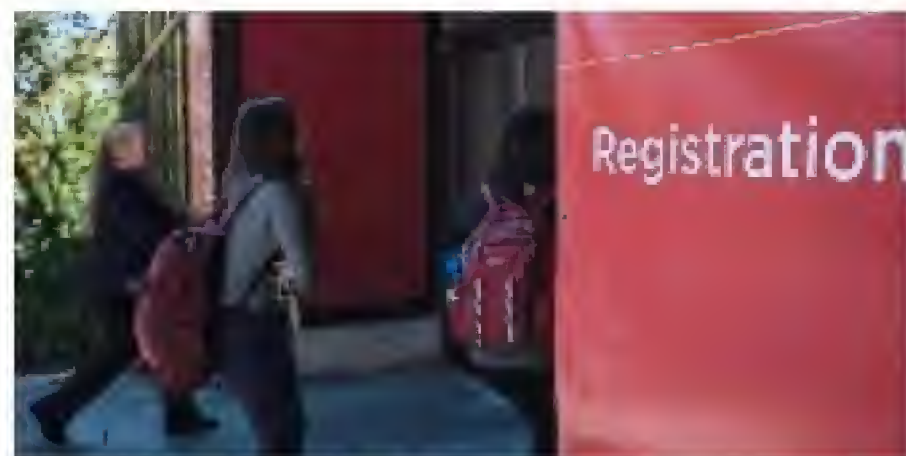
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Saifa Koonar, Lisa Brunet-Lunn and her daughter Madison, and Grant Erickson at the Kinsmen Lotto launch. COLIN VO/METRO



The government is looking at how to fund schools with more direction and clarity. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

EDUCATION

Revamp of school funding on the way



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

No strings? Sorry, no more.

The Alberta Government is looking at a revamp when it comes to how post-secondary institutions are funded; that's the Campus Alberta Grant.

Advanced Education Minister Marlin Schmidt told Metro in late March that his ministry is currently looking at how to fund schools with more direction and clarity, so taxpayers can see exactly where their dollars are going, and what outcomes they can expect for that cash contribution.

"Right now with the block grant system, the government writes a giant cheque with almost no strings attached," said Schmidt. "We're looking at if there are ways we can target some indicators or outcome measures."

In Ontario, a consultation report from 2015 on evolving that province's post-secondary funding model reads that they don't want to fund universities, but put money toward set outcomes instead. They want hard data, facts, numbers to guide the dollars they funnel into post-secondary institutions.

In Alberta, they would align with principles the minister

announced in 2016. That is the schools would need to meet accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability and coordination.

Accessibility and affordability and quality go hand in hand, and the government wants to ensure students are able to go to school in the province, even if they are lower-income, at programs that apply to their needs.

"When you talk about funding models one of the biggest issues is that it's pretty random," said ACAD president Daniel Doz. "The argument I've put forth to the minister is if you really care about equity in the system, and students being treated fairly, why don't you look at a system that attaches funding to the student."

Doz said it's tough to find a way to fund that works for every school, or program, or even the type of population depending on the resources it takes to actually put on a class.

Schmidt mentioned perhaps targeting some money to research, some to particular programs or student numbers.

"Other jurisdictions work those kinds of things into their formula as I understand," said Schmidt. "It's important that the people of Alberta know what they're getting for the significant amount of money they're investing."



The government writes a giant cheque with almost no strings.
Marlin Schmidt

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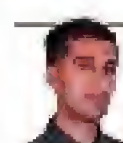
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Fixing the subpar Alberta Media Fund

FILM & TV

Minister Miranda plans to change program for good of province



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

The Alberta Media Fund, which helps Calgary film and TV productions, has taken a few hits lately — but plans are being made to overhaul the program.

First, it was slashed by nearly \$3 million in the last provincial budget, drawing ire from local filmmakers and even Calgary Mayor Nenshi, who had hoped the fund would actually increase.

"It's an industry that needs to grow significantly in Alberta because it supports a lot of jobs," Nenshi said at the time. "It's difficult to grow that industry if we can't be competitive with fund-

ing the way that other jurisdictions and provinces are."

More recently, Calgary-based production company Nomadic Pictures (behind Fargo and Hell on Wheels) has moved production of their latest series, Ghost Wars, to Vancouver, citing project caps in the Alberta Media Fund.

Well, Culture and Tourism Minister Ricardo Miranda is aware of this, and said he's started talks with Alberta's film industry leaders to see how the government can better support film and television.

FUNDING ROADBLOCKS

There are a few issues, however. First, the Alberta Media Fund, at \$34 million, wasn't actually designed for commercial projects — it was originally meant to support cultural programming, but

as Alberta's film industry grew, it morphed to help the commercial side as well.

"But how do we support both the cultural side and the commercial side, with a program that was never designed to support the commercial side," Miranda said.



I'm looking forward to coming up with solutions the industry will find useful.

Culture-Tourism Minister
Ricardo Miranda

Second, the price of oil has a definite impact on arts funding in the province.

"When you have a drop in the price of oil and you have an economy that's hurting as a result, we have to be very pragmatic and responsible with the money we have," he explained.

Although Alberta's economy is beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel, Miranda doesn't want to just throw money at the project — he wants to engage the filmmaking community and make changes to make

the Alberta Media Fund, and Alberta's other grant programs, to make them more sustainable for the future.

"Whether that means a complete overhaul or a whether it's just portions of the program that need to be tweaked, at this point everything's on the table for me," he said.

FILM IS WORTH IT

Despite challenging times, Miranda recognizes that film is an important industry to create jobs in the province, and drive the economy forward — and it's growing at a substantial rate.

So far his goal has been to maintain the current available resources as best he can but the time is coming for long-term solutions. What those solutions may be, in specifics, is still being debated however.

"We have a lot (of talent) here," he said. "I'm looking forward to coming up with solutions the industry will find useful. It's not an easy thing to do, but we're trying to do it right."



Alberta Culture and Tourism Minister Ricardo Miranda feels the current system for funding film and television is not sustainable in the long-term. AARON CHATHA/METRO

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The season of road projects

INFRASTRUCTURE

City to put in bike parking at pools, arenas this summer



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Because of the Green Line, work on the city's downtown cycle track tweaks are in limbo until council makes some final decisions. But that doesn't mean other bike projects across the city aren't changing the shape of roadways.

Agustin Louro with Bike Calgary said the East Central Network improvements are some of the most exciting for the bike community because they will serve a portion of the city that doesn't currently have a lot of cycle infrastructure.

City transportation planner Jonathan Chapman said adding the bike infrastructure can help control the speed of a collector road and help improve safety for all forms of transportation.

"A lot of communities are really concerned about speed on residential streets," Chapman said.

"One of the tools in our tool-belt on that is narrowing the driving lanes, people respond by driving slower and being more respectful to pedestrians wanting to cross."

Last summer, the city was concentrating bike parking efforts in the core where bike racks were needed.

This year, the city is looking at facilities like arenas, swimming pools and other leisure centres that may have been built before bike parking needs were a consideration.

"There's a lot of places that maybe have very outdated bi-



cycle parking, and maybe missing it," Chapman said. "We do that in response to people flagging locations ... our main focus has been on some of the places that should have some but are 20 years behind."

Every year the city builds about 300 stalls.

Bowness road

Because the city is repaving Bowness Road NW between 70 Street NW and Shouldice Bridge, they are also putting in a number of measures for pedestrians and cyclists.

The city's putting in speed humps, and fixing bus stops which were built before the city had articulated buses.

This is a Phase 2 project because the city's already completed improvements from Bowness Road to 70th street.

Northmount Drive

This year crews will begin working on the intersection of 14 Street and Northmount Drive to the Cambrian Drive to Carol Drive intersection.

Improvements include resurfacing the road, transit improvements, pedestrian improvements and separated

bike lanes across Northmount Drive to connect to the existing Cambrian track.

Chapman said this will connect Sunnyside cyclists through to 14 Street and eventually up into Brentwood.

Phase 2 of the project, which won't happen this year, will carry the complete street design down to Northland Drive.

The Phase 1 work is expected to be done by October of 2017.

East Central Network

According to Chapman this is considered an exciting area for the city to grow its cycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

"From an equity standpoint the northeast has been underserved in the past with complete street approaches to their roads," Chapman said.

The first phase of this project will cover a bike route for the north to south Marlborough Way NE and 40 Street SE between Marlborough Drive NE and 19 Avenue NE. From east to west it will connect 8 Avenue SE to 10 Avenue SE which is through Barlow Trail SE to 52 Street SE.

Phase 2 of the project hasn't been funded yet.



Maps of the city's cycle infrastructure upgrades for summer 2017. COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY



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CRIME

Police seek person of interest in 2015 killing



Kier Bryan Granado.
CONTRIBUTED

Police are on the hunt for a Calgary man that went missing shortly after a 2015 homicide and hasn't been seen or heard from by his family in nearly 17 months.

According to the Calgary Police Service, around 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 13, 2015, officers responded to reports of a shooting in an alley in the 100 block of Del Ray Road N.E.

Upon arrival, police found Hussein Merhi, 26, in medical distress. He died a short time

later on scene.

Investigators said they believe Merhi had met with at least two people in the alley. At some point during the meeting, an altercation occurred and the victim was killed.

Police are now seeking Kier Bryan Granado, 20, of Calgary, as a person of interest in Merhi's death.

Shortly after the homicide Granado went missing, according to CPS. His family has been in contact with police and said

they have not seen or heard from him in nearly 17 months and are worried about him.

Granado is described as Filipino, approximately five-foot-three and 95 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes.

Anyone with information on Granado's whereabouts is asked to contact homicide investigators by calling the CPS homicide unit tip line at 403-428-8877 or by calling the CPS non-emergency line at 403-266-1234. LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO



University psychology professor Dr. Yannick Griep. CONTRIBUTED

Volunteerism benefits brain

HEALTH

Donating time reduces risk of dementia in seniors: Study



Lucie
Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

If you're a senior who is considering retirement, or recently retired, you might want to consider taking up volunteer work.

According to a professor at the University of Calgary, seniors that consistently participate in volunteerism post-retirement substantially reduce the risk of developing dementia.

The study was led by Dr. Yannick Griep, a psychology professor at U of C. Published in the medical journal PLOS One, the study tracks 1,001

Swedish citizens, all of whom retired in 2010, over a five-year period, monitoring them for the development of cognitive problems.

"The idea is that people who volunteer continue to reap the latent benefits," Griep told Metro on Wednesday. "So, when you retire, you usually lose benefits like having a structured day, contact beyond your family and the idea that you have a purpose and contribution to society that

is greater than simply paying taxes."

The professor said the underlying assumption is that those in the regular volunteering camp stay sharper cognitively because they are continuing to engage their mind in these key ways.

Griep said that in another study, senior retiree subjects were asked to exercise a specific number of times a week and also saw benefits — but volunteerism appears to have the greatest impact.

"What is special about volunteering is that it's the most prototypical activity that comes close to doing paid work. It's the most closely related to the benefits that person had while they were working," he said.

Griep said he and his co-researchers found that retirees who only volunteer sporadically did not receive any benefits to their cognitive

health.

"You do need to do this constantly, so as soon as your volunteering discontinues, or you do it less often, there are no specific cognitive benefits for those individuals," he said.

Griep said this is an important issue.

"As a senior, your risk of dementia goes up substantially. Anything you can do that's low cost and easy to implement that will reduce the likelihood of dementia is invaluable."

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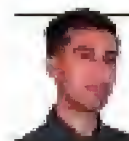
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Sikhs prep for annual parade



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

This weekend, more than 60,000 Calgarians will march in the annual Nagar Kirtan parade to celebrate community and the Sikh faith.

The annual parade is now in its 19th year in Calgary.

"I feel honoured in organizing this event (again)," said Parmeet Singh, president of the Dashmesh Culture Center. He feels the event is important to help the larger Calgary community learn a bit more about the Sikh culture.

"People sing religious hymns, and youth volunteers will hand out pamphlets about the Sikh culture."

The Nagar Kirtan is celebrated during Vaisakhi, which is the anniversary of the formation of Khalsa (the basis of the Sikh religion). It was formed by the 10th Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, in 1699.

Last year about 60,000 participated, making it one of Calgary's largest parades. This year, the parade comes on the heels of the recently designated Sikh Heritage Month in April.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend.

The parade takes place on Saturday, May 13, and will begin at 10 am at the Dashmesh Culture Centre located at 135 Martindale Blvd NE. There will be food and cultural floats.



Last year's parade drew nearly 60,000 participants.

PARMEET SINGH/FOR METRO



Mieko Ouchi is directing a play about sexual consent with a \$80,000 grant from the province. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Consent play gets \$80K from province

EDUCATION

Concrete Theatre will tour schools across Alberta



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

An Edmonton theatre company is taking a new approach to teaching sexual consent, with help from an \$80,000 provincial grant.

Concrete Theatre will tour dozens of junior high and high

schools next year with a one-act play called Consent.

"I think especially when you're talking about issues around relationships and communication, it's very hard to model that in a lecture or to really have a concrete example for the kids to examine," said Concrete's artistic director Mieko Ouchi.

"In a play, we can get really invested in a couple of characters and we can actually see that communication or miscommunication or those challenges happening right in front of us. I think it gives the kids a great basis to talk about those issues."

Concrete Theatre's production was the only artistic initia-

tive to benefit from a set of 34 grants given out by the Status of Women Ministry in the 2016/17 fiscal year – totaling \$1.5 million – that set out to advance women's equality in Alberta.

Others include projects to help Indigenous entrepreneurs start businesses, advance women in sports, and train immigrant women in computer networking.

Status of Women Minister Stephanie McLean said almost 30 per cent of grant applications came from people who had never applied for government grants before.

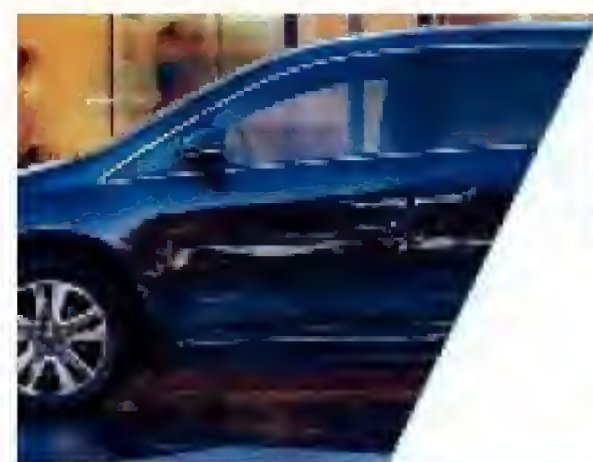
"I think it shows that women's equality was largely ignored for far too long by past governments," she said. "I'm

very proud of the fact that we are able to meet this demand that's been there all along in the community."

Ouchi said the grant is "critical" because it allows Concrete to offer the play to schools at \$250 rather than \$800.

Concrete Theatre is working with the Compass Centre for Sexual Wellness and the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton to develop companion material, including pre- and post-play questions teachers can use for classroom discussions.

Performers will also be accompanied by educators and counsellors in case students approach them with complicated questions.



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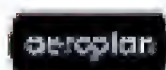
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According to the City of Calgary's website, styrofoam, metal hangers, wood and oil are a few of the many items not acceptable for blue bins. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Mixing trash with recyclables

ENVIRONMENT

Not everything going into the city's blue bins gets recycled



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

So you've got a wire coat hanger and you need to get rid of it. Garbage or blue bin?

It's a question thousands of Calgarians are asking every day about just about any ma-

terial you can imagine. The City of Calgary knows it, and they're trying to keep people informed.

Sharon Howland, leader of program management at Waste and Recycling, said it's a constant task to keep people updated on what they should and shouldn't put in blue bins.

Over the past 18 months, they've been moving their message away from traditional media — TV, radio and print advertising — to social media.

"That's as a result of how Calgarians are consuming their media," said Howland. "There's definitely a higher

rate of usage for social media."

She said it's easier to change the message on the fly. Like if they notice a problem with a particular item or material showing up in the waste stream.

"Social media is more of a conversation with residents as well. So we can get more feedback and answer more questions when we do a campaign," said Howland.

Most importantly, it's cheaper, although she couldn't provide the dollar value on how much the city saved by taking its message online.

Despite all that messaging,

garbage is ending up at the Material Recovery Facility. That's where Cascades Recovery Inc. works for the city, sorting all the items that arrive from blue bins, and commercial recyclers as well.

Howland said last year the company processed 66,000 metric tonnes of waste, and of that, 61,000 metric tonnes were recyclable.

That means 5,000 metric tonnes still went to the landfill, despite being put in a blue bin.

While it sounds like a lot, Howland said the city's contract with cascades has parameters for this sort of thing.

"Compared to other communities, we are doing very, very well. Generally speaking, if you can keep resi-

due around 10 per cent or less, your program is doing well.

In 2016, Calgary's residue was less than 7.5 per cent.

If that number were to creep up, it could cost the

city penalties in its contract, according to Howland. Fortunately, she said the number has been steady or improving since Calgary first introduced blue bin recycling.



Bits and pieces

Small bits of paper and plastic still end up in the landfill. Sorting equipment isn't great at capturing smaller items, which still get treated as trash.

BY THE NUMBERS

2%

2% of all traffic to city's website is looking for recycling information

5,000

A total of 5,000 metric tons of garbage was sorted from Calgary's recycling last year.

Bags of garbage

Black bags do end up in blue bins, either by mistake or malice. The city doesn't open them at the sorting facility. They are just sent on to landfills.

CONTRIBUTED



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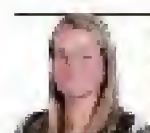


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Empowering Calgary girls by exploring STEM

EVENT

Explore IT conference took place Wednesday



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

If you ask Beyoncé, the answer to the question 'who runs the world?' is easy.

Girls.

On Wednesday, nearly 750 of Calgary's very own girls took over the traditionally male dominated areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) at the 18th annual Explore IT conference at SAIT, the University of Calgary and Mount Royal University.

The annual event is held simultaneously at all three post-secondary institutes and is specific to Grade 9 girls. The unique experience offers them "inspirational and motivational environments" to help set their sights on opportunities in the various STEM fields.

One of the organizers, Mo Keshavjee, of SAIT's school of information and communications technologies, said the goal of the conference is to ask them the questions: What are you passionate about? What do you love? What is your goal? And, how can we help you get there?



Maria Dimancheva, 14, from Branton Junior High School, works on soldering at SAIT's Explore IT event. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

"We want to empower these young women to know that they're capable of doing these STEM jobs," he said.

Maria Dimancheva, a Grade 9 student from Branton Bilingual Jr. High, spent her day building a calculator and making a brain game. She said the conference has been an enlightening experience for her.

"I think it's a really good

opportunity because we don't get much hands-on experience. We have a lot of language and more literal courses, so I found this experience to be really valuable," she said.

Dimancheva said especially for girls her age who are heading into high school, events like this help them build confidence.

"We need the confidence

to do well in our courses and to know that women are accepted in society and we can do everything male individuals do," she said. "I think this is a great opportunity because with the keynote speaker and the presentations we saw that even though women are not dominant in technology, they have a lot to contribute."

Keeshavjee said the girls were given the opportunity to explore things like electronics engineering, app building, computer programming and more.

"The underlying message for this whole thing is that we want them to stick with science and math courses in high school, and then when they're done and off to post-secondary they'll think of science and

technology as a career path."

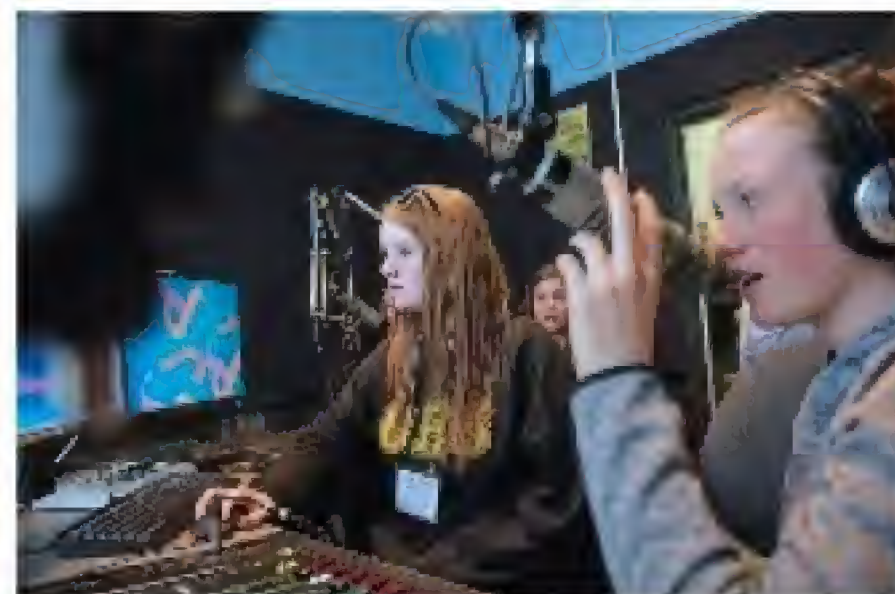
Keeshavjee said STEM fields are no longer male dominated, and that more and more employer are looking for women to fill jobs.

"The reason is that women think differently, they have more patience, they have good attention to detail," he said. "We're trying to get these young women to understand that this is a career path for them, so they can begin to see it is possible for them."



We want to empower these young women.

Mo Keshavjee



Kenzie Scheller, 14, and Georgia Hutchison, 14, work on making a live radio show at SAIT. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

CHILD SERVICES

Limits to province's power: Minister

Alberta's children's services minister, facing demands she break up a family under investigation in a child's death, says the province does not have blanket power to take children away from their biological parents.

Danielle Larivee said judges, not politicians, make that call and they won't do so without direct evidence of threat or harm to a child.

And she said they won't do so simply because a criminal investigation is underway.

"The law that we are all as Albertans bound by does not let government go in and apprehend children without evidence of abuse," Larivee told the house Wednesday during question period.

Larivee has been under fire from political opponents after it was revealed this week that caregivers at the centre of the horrific death of a four-year-old girl in kinship care still have custody of their natural children.

Opposition members say those kids need to be removed from the home for their safety and that Larivee should be fired for allowing them to be there.

But Larivee said the children are not being harmed and are being assessed by social workers, though she could not provide many details because of privacy rules.

"I can specifically say that there has been face-to-face contact and interviewing of these individual children in situations in which I'm confident they were able to have an open conversation with assessors," Larivee said later at a news conference.

She said assessors are also trained to look for abuse and neglect. She said the checks began in 2014 and the latest one was this week.

She wouldn't say how many checks have been done or how often the children are seen, except to say the checks have been "intermittent."

Larivee also said media reports saying there are six children in the house are incorrect. She wouldn't give the actual number or give the ages of the children, again citing privacy rules.

Wildrose member Jason Nixon said the children need to be removed.

"Common sense dictates that no children — period — should be cared for by people who allow the child to be beaten, starved and sexually assaulted to the point of death under their watch," Nixon told Larivee in the house Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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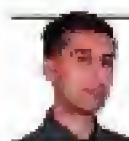
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Canada

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CLOTHING

Designer to feature hemp vogue at Parkshow



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

From crops to tops, hemp yoga clothing is a natural fit for Calgary fashion designer Blake Ward.

Under his brand Seed, Ward will be showing off his hemp-made fashions at this year's Parkshow; his story started a few years back.

After 15 years of practising yoga, Ward was sick of the synthetic polyesters that quickly got hot and sweaty during a session — he wanted something more breathable and natural.

But he just couldn't find anything that fit his tastes.

"I didn't have any background in it, but I bought a sewing machine one day and set it up in my kitchen table," he recalled. "I taught myself how to sew and started designing the world's best clothing."

From Ward's experience, Hemp sews just the same as any other fabric, but there's a big difference in terms of breathability.

Ward didn't want clothing that appealed only due to the materials though — his goal was to create hemp clothing that also looked good. His designs, from T-shirts to branded antidote



Blake Ward, left, started by making yoga-wear from hemp.

COURTESY BLAKE WARD

pants, take inspiration from his hobbies, including yoga, skateboarding and wakeboarding.

"We've also got stuff for bodies that don't fit the typical athletic frame," he said.

Ward will have designs on the runway and for sale at this year's Parkshow event.

Parkshow is an annual fashion show in Calgary that supports new and local artists, with a 'buy off the runway' concept.

This year's show takes place May 26-27 at the Inglewood Warehouse.

Visit www.ourparkonline.com for more information.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

STEP summer program extended

The Government of Alberta has extended its Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP) for the second year to 3,000 students.

The program connects high school and post-secondary students with employers for work experience. Employers who qualify for the program receive a \$7-per-hour subsidy to hire students from May to August.

"STEP helps students build transferable skills, opening labour markets and will also support employers with hiring the staff they need," said Min-

ister of Labour Christina Gray.

"We know for students this experience can be crucial in landing their next job," she added.

Last year, STEP helped 2,700 students. This year, they made some minor administrative changes to make it simpler for employers to hire multiple students under the program.

STEP lasts four to 16 weeks and is available to small businesses, non-profits, libraries, school boards, municipalities, First Nations and Métis settlements and publicly funded post-secondary institutions. METRO

“This experience can be crucial in landing a job.”
Christina Gray

IN BRIEF

Teen safe after being swept away river current

A 13-year-old boy in Medicine Hat is safe after he was swept away by the strong current while playing with friends along the South Saskatchewan River.

Police in the city say the teen was with two other boys on the river bank Tuesday evening when he got caught in the current and was carried about 300 metres downstream.

He was able to scramble onto a small island in the middle of the river, where he was rescued by firefighters.

The boy was not injured. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Quebec keeps eye on rain

WEATHER

Residents losing patience in worst-hit flood areas

While water levels continued their slow decline in some parts of Quebec on Wednesday, the province's environment minister warned the situation could deteriorate this weekend because of heavy rain.

David Heurtel said the central Quebec region of Mauricie is expected to bear the brunt of the precipitation.

"Depending on the region, we're talking about 20 to 40 millimetres but in Mauricie the impact will be even greater, so we should expect another tough weekend there," he said.

Heurtel said the combination of rain, melting snow in the St-Maurice River basin and rising tides could prove to be damaging in the region.

Trois-Rivières resident Patrice Bourassa, who has been co-ordinating volunteer efforts



Flood waters breach the Gatineau River and flood a neighbourhood in Gatineau, Quebec on Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

in Mauricie, said citizens in some of the worst-hit regions are losing energy and patience.

"It's reached the point they have to leave their homes in the morning and take a canoe

to their vehicle 500 metres away because it's too flooded," he said in a telephone interview.

Bourassa said the Facebook page he created has already

drawn 1,200 members, with many spending the last few days building dikes, packing sandbags and helping other citizens.

He says that while city offi-

cials have offered all the help they can, some of the smaller towns in the region have fewer resources to deal with flooding.

Levels are expected to remain stable in flooded areas in the Greater Montreal area, where Heurtel credited the management of water flow from the Ottawa River and Great Lakes basins with preventing the situation from getting worse.

Meanwhile, Public Security Minister Martin Coiteux told the same news conference that 3,882 residences in the province have now been affected by the floods.

Coiteux also said 2,721 people have had to leave their homes and that there have been 126 landslides.

In Montreal, fire Chief Bruno Lachance said the focus is on consolidating dams and that he doesn't expect the number of evacuees to rise.

A state of emergency remains in effect in Montreal until Sunday, with Lachance saying 243 people have been evacuated and about 400 homes have been flooded in the city.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATURAL DISASTERS

Release flood data: Minister

The federal infrastructure minister says cities should release any maps or data about flooding concerns in their cities.

Amarjeet Sohi says residents of municipalities deserve to know whether their home could be at risk of flooding so they can make informed decisions about their properties.

He acknowledges that releasing the information is risky and controversial in some municipalities, but it's the only way homeowners will be able to decide how to protect their properties from potential flooding.

Internal government reports show that some city leaders have been wary about mapping — and publicizing — flood risks in their communities, even going so far as to turn down free mapping tools.

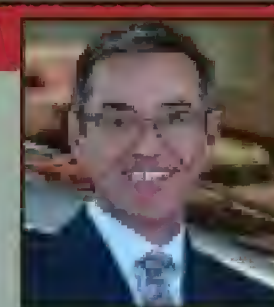
The documents show the concerns revolve around whether the information, once public, will reduce property values, increase a municipality's legal liability and lead to a political backlash from voters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Can Mexico and Canada weather a NAFTA storm?

TRADE

As countries have grown closer, irritants have arisen

To hear Pierre Alarie tell it, Mexico and Canada are like two weary travellers seeking shelter from the same storm — the fierce bluster from Donald Trump's frequent criticism of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The two nations will be better able to withstand that storm if they stand together, the Canadian ambassador to Mexico declared last month during a speech to a business gathering in that country's capital city.

Alarie's message, Mexican and Canadian officials say, reflects a deep level of co-operation between the two countries — something that, given the challenging three-way dynamics of North American politics, hasn't always been the case in the past.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto during the APEC Summit in Lima, Peru, last November. THE CANADIAN PRESS

It may not be the case in the future, either.

If push comes to shove, some observers warn, Canada will have to jettison Mexico and pursue its own bilateral side deal with the U.S. if the NAFTA talks degenerate.

A strong, newly negotiated three-way NAFTA is the goal, said Maryscott Greenwood, head of the Canadian American

Business Council. But strained relations between Trump and Mexico could well make that difficult, she acknowledged.

"If it's politically impossible ... for the U.S. to move forward with a comprehensive economic relationship with Mexico for various reasons — Mexican politics, U.S. politics — then we think, 'Don't be delayed by that; move forward with a bilateral

negotiation.'" Greenwood recently told the House of Commons foreign affairs committee.

Not surprisingly, Mexico's political leaders, like Tourism Minister Enrique de la Madrid Cordero, warn against abandoning NAFTA's unique three-way nature.

Canada and Mexico should be working together to modernize the 23-year-old trade deal, not settling for a series of bilateral side deals where one country throws the other under the bus to serve its own interests, he said.

The two countries have grown closer over the years, but other irritants have arisen, notably the visa requirement that Stephen Harper's Conservative government imposed on Mexican travellers in 2009. It was lifted last year by the Liberals.

Officials from either side of the Canada-Mexico divide, speaking on condition of anonymity in order to discuss matters of diplomatic sensitivity, say the lines of communication between the two countries are always open. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FEDERAL COURT

Citizenship Act terms violate rights: Judge

Stripping new Canadians of their citizenship without giving them a proper chance to explain themselves is a violation of their rights, a Federal Court judge declared Wednesday.

In a key decision, Judge Jocelyne Gagne struck down provisions of the Citizenship Act enacted by the former Conservative government under Stephen Harper, saying they conflict with principles of fundamental justice.

The decision comes in eight cases — considered as test cases — that challenged the constitutionality of the changes made in

May 2015. Those amendments barred people from going to court to fight the loss of their Canadian status, in some cases leaving them stateless, over alleged lies on their residency or citizenship applications.

The changes also barred people from reapplying for Canadian citizenship for 10 years after revocation.

"Since there is no right of appeal from a revocation decision of the minister under the amended act, the need for procedural fairness is all the more acute," Gagne wrote in her ruling. THE CANADIAN PRESS



A special citizenship ceremony at Mohawk College in Hamilton welcomed 40 new citizens last October. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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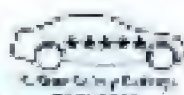
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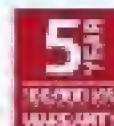
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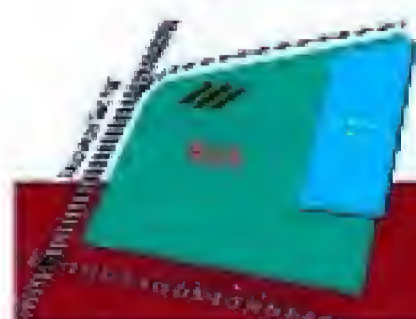
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Americans react to firing of FBI director

INVESTIGATION
Abrupt ousting of FBI director Comey draws sharp criticism

Americans could be forgiven if they're feeling a bit whiplashed by recent events in the nation's capital. Less than a week after House Republicans voted to dismantle Barack Obama's health care law, President Donald Trump abruptly fired FBI Director James Comey — only the second time in history that an FBI chief has been removed from office.

Then, on Wednesday, Trump met with Russia's top diplomat amid ongoing FBI and congressional probes of Russian meddling in last year's presidential election and possible contacts between the Trump campaign and Russia.

As voters processed the latest batch of news out of Washing-

ton, their opinions on Comey's dramatic sacking seemed to divide along familiar partisan lines: Republicans and Trump supporters saw it as necessary, while Democrats viewed it with suspicion.

Pennsylvania resident Tom Stump took a different tack, urging people to slow down and let the facts on Comey develop. "I'd say the jury's still out," he said.

'I CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH HIM'

As a Democrat who voted for Hillary Clinton, Loretta Shollenberger is no fan of Comey. She believes he helped decide the November election for Trump when he reopened the investigation into Clinton's email practices in the waning days of the campaign.

But Shollenberger believes Trump's firing of Comey had nothing to do with his handling of the probe.

"It's bogus," said Shollenberger, 69, from Mohrsville, Pa. "I think they're getting a little too close with his ties to Russia."

Trump hoodwinked his supporters, she said, but "he doesn't have me buffaloed. I can see right through him."

Shollenberger said she's concerned about the direction of the country and places blame squarely at the feet of the president.

"I would like to see him impeached and locked up," she said.

'KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT'

Tom Hier, 54, a Navy veteran and disabled security officer from Valrico, Fla., fully supports Trump's decision on Comey.

"As the FBI director, you've got to know when to say stuff and know when to keep your mouth shut," he said.

'NATIONAL TRAGEDY'

Oklahoma City bookstore owner Charles Martin supported Hillary Clinton in November, but he's tried to remain hopeful during the Trump presidency.

But Trump's latest move has him worried.

Firing the FBI director amid an ongoing investigation into possible contacts between the Trump campaign and Russia is

un-American and something expected in a "strong-arm regime," said Martin, 40.

"What is unsettling about this is it looks like we might be getting to the end of what's been a national embarrassment and starting to approach the cusp of a national tragedy," Martin said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETAILS

Days before he was fired by Donald Trump, FBI Director James Comey requested more resources to pursue his investigation into Russia's election meddling and the possible involvement of Trump associates, U.S. officials said Wednesday, fueling concerns that Trump was trying to undermine a probe that could threaten his presidency.

But Trump's latest move has him worried.

Firing the FBI director amid an ongoing investigation into possible contacts between the Trump campaign and Russia is



Hundreds rally to protest President Donald Trump's firing of FBI Director James Comey outside the White House Wednesday in Washington, D.C.

Trump hosts Russian foreign minister, envoy

POLITICS

All but ignoring the unfurling drama over Russia and the U.S. election, President Donald Trump on Wednesday sought to advance prospects for co-operation between the former Cold War foes in Syria and elsewhere in a rare Oval Office meeting with Vladimir Putin's top diplomat.

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's talks with Trump were already destined to be a closely watched affair, given the dire state of U.S.-Russian relations and diplomatic wrangling going on over a Moscow-backed deal to stabilize Syria. Yet Trump's stunning decision on the eve of the meeting to fire the FBI director overseeing a Russia-related investigation injected further intrigue into Lavrov's first visit to Washington since 2013.

Trump "raised the possibility of broader co-operation on resolving conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere," according to a White House statement.

Trump and Lavrov met in private, though both sides cast the session as a sign of ties having improved since the U.S. leader's assessment of them last month.

On Wednesday, they focused on areas of budding agreement and Lavrov sought to blame the recent acrimony on former president Barack Obama.

"The previous administration bent over backwards to undermine the solid foundation of our relations," Lavrov told reporters at the Russian Embassy after meeting Trump. "We have to start at a very low level."

In contrast, he credited Putin doesn't want to follow the lead of those who are trying to poison our relations to the point of no return. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov

Concerns over storing of toxic remnants

NUCLEAR WASTE

The collapse of a tunnel containing radioactive waste at the Hanford nuclear weapons complex underscored what critics have long been saying: that the toxic remnants of the Cold War are being stored in haphazard and unsafe conditions, and time is running out to deal with the problem.

"Unfortunately, the crisis at Hanford is far from an isolated incident," said Kevin Kamps of the anti-nuclear group Beyond Nuclear.

For instance, at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina, which opened in the 1950s and produced plutonium and tritium, the government is labouring to clean up groundwater contamination along with 40 million gallons of radioactive liquid waste stored in tanks that are decades past their projected lifespan. The job is likely to take decades.

At Hanford, in addition to the tunnel collapse discovered on Tuesday, dozens of underground storage tanks are leaking highly radioactive materials.

The problem is that the U.S. government rushed to build nuclear weapons during the Cold War with little thought given to how to permanently dispose of the resulting waste.

Safely removing it now is proving enormously expensive, slow-going, extraordinarily dangerous, and so complex that much of the technology required simply does not exist.

The U.S. Department of Energy spends about \$6 billion a year on managing waste left from the production of nuclear weapons.

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MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

Pot not a threat to booze sales: Study

The recreational marijuana industry is expected to take a sip of less than one per cent initially out of annual Canadian alcohol sales once it becomes legal, a new analysis says.

The Anderson Economic Group, a business consulting firm in New York, says legalization of marijuana would sap \$160 million out of the country's \$22.1 billion booze sector, rising as use of the drug expands.

The beer market, which is worth about \$9.2 billion, is anticipated to take a \$70-million hit in the first year of marijuana legalization, according to the Anderson Economic

Group.

"It won't affect spending patterns necessarily the first year to the degree where individuals' buying habits will change overnight," said Peter Schwartz, an Anderson consultant and editor of its biannual Cannabis Market Report.

A Deloitte report has estimated that the Canadian market for marijuana could be worth up to around \$22.6 billion a year, including about \$4.9 billion to \$8.7 billion from the sale of the substance, with the rest coming from the ancillary market including growers, testing labs and security.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEALTH

Breaded chicken recalled

Federal health officials say Maple Leaf Foods Inc. is recalling various breaded chicken products because they may contain a toxin produced by *Staphylococcus* bacteria.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says the affected products, which were sold in Ontario

and Quebec, include Maple Leaf brand Chicken Breast Strips in 840-gram packages with a best-before date of April 20, 2018.

Chicken burgers under the Sufra Halal and Mina Halal brand names in 828-gram packages are also being recalled.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Peanuts gang moving to Halifax company

ENTERTAINMENT

Schulz's family will continue to have 20% stake in franchise

The Peanuts gang of cartoon characters created by Charles Schulz is getting a new home at a Halifax-based entertainment company under a \$345-million U.S. deal announced Wednesday.

DHX Media will add the Peanuts and Strawberry Shortcake brands to its other properties, which include rights to the Teletubbies, Inspector Gadget, Degraffi and other programming for children and young audiences.

The agreement has the blessing of Schulz's widow, whose family will continue to have a 20 per cent share of the rights to the Peanuts cartoon and animation franchise.



The agreement to send Charlie Brown and Snoopy to Halifax-based DHX Media has the blessing of Jean Schulz, the widow of **Charles Schulz**, above. THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"DHX Media feels like a perfect fit for Peanuts," Jean Schulz said in a joint statement issued by the company.

The proposed deal has been approved by the boards of DHX Media and Iconix Brand Group, which owns 80 per cent of

the Peanuts brand and 100 per cent of the Strawberry Shortcake brand.

Before Charlie Brown, his dog Snoopy and their friends can join DHX Media, the agreement also requires various regulatory approvals and com-

pletion of a financing package.

DHX has hired RBC Capital Markets and Jefferies Finance to provide a fully underwritten debt financing covering the purchase price and refinance substantially all of the company's debt. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOUSING

Global sales of luxury homes cooled in 2016, Christie's says

Global luxury home sales cooled off in 2016 for the second consecutive year, even with a record number of homes selling for more than \$100 million.

A report released Wednesday by Christie's International Real Estate shows that sales of homes priced at \$1 million US or more edged up about one per cent worldwide last year.

That represents a sharp slowdown from 2015, when luxury home sales climbed eight per cent, and from 2014, when sales vaulted 16 per cent.

Despite the sluggish sales growth, Christie's says luxury home prices continued to rise last year, increasing about two per cent from a year earlier. And for the first time, 10 homes sold for more than \$100 million each. The priciest sale, a mansion located in The Peak neighbourhood in Hong Kong, fetched more than \$270 million.

Luxury home sales sank 67 per cent in the U.K. from a year earlier, while sales slipped four per cent in the U.S. and slid 29 per cent in markets in the Asia-Pacific region. In contrast, sales climbed 20 per cent in Europe and 44 per cent in Canada.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Playboy Mansion in Los Angeles was among the priciest homes to sell in 2016. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

TORONTO MARKET BUCKS TREND

■ Sales prices rose in more than half of the markets. Toronto posted the biggest gain, 20 per cent.
■ Toronto led a separate gauge of the hottest luxury markets, or those where the pace of sales was strongest. Its luxury home

sales were nearly double what they were in 2015. ■ Luxury homes in Toronto took an average of 17 days to sell last year, down from 28 days the year before. That was the fastest sales pace of any market.

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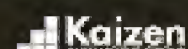
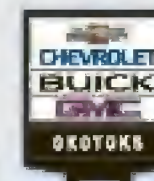
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CHANTAL HÉBERT ON THE B.C. ELECTION



With pipelines and electoral reform rearing their heads, one way or another this is not the result the Trudeau government wanted or needed.

On the morning after Tuesday's British Columbia election, there was no ready acknowledgement by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's office of the results of the provincial vote in Canada's third largest province and no boilerplate salute to the dawn of a new mandate.

It is hard to put the sound of one hand clapping into words.

In the wake of an election that failed to give either of the province's main parties a clear win, it will take weeks — and probably at some point in the not so distant future another election — for the political landscape in British Columbia to sort itself out.

On Tuesday, the province's voters left the incumbent Liberals on the doorstep of a majority, just one seat short of the 44 required to keep control of the B.C. legislature. There is still a possibility that a handful of recounts and/or the outcome of the absentee vote will help premier Christy Clark to cross the threshold.

Under that best-case scenario for her party, she would lead a government so fragile it would be at the mercy for its survival of the whims of a few maverick MPs from her own ranks. It does not enhance the moral authority of an incumbent to need a recount to be reconfirmed in the job.

Only two seats separate the first-place Liberals from the New Democrats. The recount could also flip the result in favour of the NDP.

But under just about any configuration of the final seat-count, Clark and NDP leader John Horgan will have to try to

come to terms with the Green Party. With three seats, it has the capacity to anchor one or the other to power and provide B.C. with some measure of governing stability.

Green Party leader Andrew Weaver could do that by joining the Liberals or the NDP in

ing Canadian mainstream.

It could also restore some impetus to the electoral reform debate. Both the B.C. Greens and the NDP advocate a more proportional voting system. The province has done more legwork on the issue than most other Canadian

Minister has always claimed that he did not believe such projects should proceed without a social licence.

It was not the only issue on the B.C. ballot but it was in the mix. Clark's Liberals took most of the hits that cost them their soft majority cushion in and



SHAKY GROUND Christy Clark and Justin Trudeau were once all smiles, but there was no rush at the Prime Minister's Office to congratulate the B.C. Premier on her narrow victory. THE CANADIAN PRESS

a coalition government as the Saskatchewan Liberals did in 1999 or as the Ontario NDP did in 1985 by agreeing to support one of the other parties in government for some period of time in exchange for policies that are close to his heart.

But whether Clark remains at the helm beyond the first confidence vote of the opening session of the mandate or not or even if she ends up clinging to a razor-thin majority it will hardly be business as usual. As of now and until B.C. returns to the polls at some unspecified time, the province stands to be in permanent campaign mode.

In the interval, the uncertain outcome of Tuesday's vote could force Clark's Liberals to belatedly renounce their rich diet of corporate donations and join the political fundrais-

jurisdictions. There may be a window to try — for the third time — to replace the first-past-the-post system.

One way or another, though, this is not the result the Trudeau government wanted or needed.

As things stand today, a majority of the elected members of the next B.C. legislature are on record as opposing the Kinder Morgan plans to expand its Trans Mountain pipeline.

Clark herself only offered tepid support for the plan. Should she form a viable government, it is unlikely to be the hill she would choose to die on.

The project is a key piece in Trudeau's energy/environment puzzle but not one that his own caucus is unanimously enamoured with. The Prime

Meredith case ought to be a wake up call for Parliament Hill



Vicky Mochama
Metro

Don Meredith may be gone from the Hill, but the atmosphere that enabled him is still a concern for women.

When Ms. M decided to report her sexual relationship with Sen. Meredith to authorities, the police told her although a case like hers comes with a publication ban on her name, "her identity would be known to anyone who attended court or examined the court file," according to The Toronto Star.

Instead, she chose to report to the Senate ethics officer, who offered her a cloak of confidentiality. (The ethics officer, believing a crime may have occurred, notified the police who asked the Senate to suspend its investigation. After four months, Ottawa police stopped the investigation without laying charges.)

Though not a Hill staffer herself, Ms. M chose to speak to Star reporter Kevin Donovan after hearing other media reports that Sen. Meredith was under investigation for sexual harassment in the workplace: "She was concerned that the investigators would not believe what the former staff members were alleging and she wanted to add her voice to the story."

Her bravery and fortitude are beyond commendable.

Her story, however, is part of the problem and future of Parliament Hill.

For all we hear about "men in power," the halls of government in Ottawa are female-dominated. Female

staffers and volunteers are the backbone and engine of the legislative branch. Many are young, ambitious, and for those reasons, vulnerable.

Were that not enough, the systems of accountability can be unclear. To whom does a young staffer report their MP? Or their chief of staff? Or a fellow staffer?

The viable options can differ from party to party, which makes it even harder for young staffers. In a three-part series, the Hill Times reported on this dynamic: "Even if someone does report, they may be reporting the harassment to either their own MP or one of their MP's colleagues, through the whip's office, though the House chief human resources officer is also a reporting avenue."

In 2014, the House of Commons launched a harassment policy. And while this led to more complaints being filed, there are also many that exist outside of the House's jurisdiction, yet entirely within their culture.

A VICE essay by former staffer Beisan Zubi showed how the culture of Parliament Hill can deter someone from reporting sexual harassment. From lobbyist parties to bar nights with colleagues to one-on-one meetings, being both collegial and ambitious can put workers on the Hill in danger.

Ms. M's bravery in holding the Senator accountable must be met with an equally bold response.

The bubble of the Hill ought to make way for a cultural change and policies that ensure the safety of its most vulnerable workers.

The province stands to be in permanent campaign mode.

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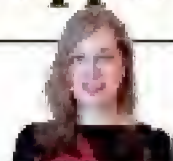
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'I wanted the reader to be stuck in there and almost suffocate'

BOOKS

Quebec cartoonist captures the agony of being kidnapped

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada



Christophe André, an administrator working in the Caucasus with the humanitarian organization Médecins Sans Frontières, was sleeping one night when a group of men burst into his bedroom, threw a sack over his head and took him into captivity.

He was held in a series of bare apartments, his arm chained above his head to a radiator, unaware of what his kidnappers wanted, until he escaped 111 days later in Chechnya, barefooted, weak and malnourished.

André's abduction took place 20 years ago, early in the summer of 1997, but kidnapping remains an occupational hazard for employees of non-governmental organizations like MSF.

In some political

ally volatile countries like Somalia, Syria and Afghanistan, kidnapping is almost a rite of passage.

Quebec-born cartoonist Guy Delisle — who now lives in France where he is considered a celebrity artist — remembers reading a newspaper interview with André after his escape. Delisle was captivated by the story because most people who have returned from a kidnapping don't want to talk about their experiences.

But Delisle was struck by André's openness and a quote where he said, "He felt like a football player that scored the last goal and won the match."

The story also had a deep personal connection for Delisle. His wife Nadège is a former administrator with MSF, and his experiences travelling with their family for her job is the subject of two of his acclaimed graphic novels, *Burma Chronicles* and *Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City*.

When Delisle initially met André in person, he was full of questions, and took many notes even before they left the restaurant.

"I didn't think he wanted to go into detail, but he was talking very freely about the whole thing, and he gave us the whole story from beginning to end," says Delisle, who immediately suggested to André they turn his memories into a comic.

André had no desire to write a book about the experience but agreed and provided more recordings and docu-

ments. Delisle began their interview process, and the tough work of illustrating a story where most of the action happens in someone's head.

Hostage — which Delisle started drawing in 2003 and is now being released in English by Montreal publisher Drawn & Quarterly (translated by Helge Dascher) — is a nail-biter of a tale told completely from André's point of view.

As André's captivity stretches out over months, Delisle ratchets up the tension with repetitive linework, a gloomy grey palette and tightly boxed-in panels, which just adds to the overwhelming sense of confinement. In developing the story, Delisle even took a few tips from old interviews with the master of suspense, Alfred Hitchcock.

"I wanted the reader to be stuck there, just like Christophe was, then turn the page and almost suffocate," says Delisle. "There are so many pages where you want to escape, but it's not that easy in 450 pages."

As André's body gets weaker, the earlier fantasies of returning home for his sister's wedding and his own homecoming seem impossible.

But then comes his incredible movie-worthy escape, thanks to a door left fortuitously open. Delisle suggests that while readers can imagine themselves in André's life-or-death predicament, or be confident that they would run or fight, it's nearly impossible to know one's reaction under all that physical and emotional stress.



Aid worker Christophe André's kidnapping ordeal is portrayed in comic book style in Guy Delisle's claustrophobic *Hostage*. CONTRIBUTED

"It's really hard to imagine what you would do, because you really do have to be in that situation to realize that you can do crazy things and you are much more than you think," says Delisle. "Christophe is an administrator, not

an adventure guy. It really is the story of an ordinary guy in an extraordinary situation."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Editor quits after cultural appropriation column uproar

Writer and editor Hal Niedzviecki has resigned as editor of *Write*, the Writers' Union of Canada magazine, after outrage sparked by an opinion piece titled *Winning the Appropriation Prize* he wrote in an issue devoted to Indigenous writing.

In it, he states that "I don't believe in cultural appropriation. In my opinion, anyone, anywhere,

should be encouraged to imagine other peoples, other cultures, other identities."

He notes that most Canadian literature is written by people who are "white and middle-class" and exhorts them to look outside of their own community and write about "what you don't know" in an effort to "explore the lives of people who aren't

like you."

"Set your sights on the big goal: Win the Appropriation Prize," he notes in the piece which appears under the label *Writer's Prompt*.

Niedzviecki, who is also the founder and editor of *Broken Pencil* magazine, went on to reference the Indigenous writers whose work fills this issue of

the magazine: "Indigenous writers, buffeted by history and circumstance, so often must write from what they don't know... They are on the vanguard, taking risks, bravely forging ahead into the unknown."

As writers began receiving the issue on Tuesday, outrage on social media was fast and furious. "I am seriously disgusted that

someone would use the Indigenous issue of *Write* as a jump point for a case for cultural appropriation on the backs, words, and reputations of the Indigenous writers featured in it. It's not enough that we are finding our voices, reclaiming our ability to tell stories, and having to heal to tell these stories. But people want to tell them for us," Helen

Knott, a contributor to the issue, wrote on Facebook.

The Writers' Union quickly stepped in, apologizing "unequivocally" and noting Wednesday that "the editor of *Write* magazine has resigned from his position."

Niedzviecki did not immediately return requests for comment. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Why this librarian is against those Little Free Libraries



Jordan Hale has co-authored a critique of the book exchange system known as Little Free Libraries. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

READING

Study suggests exchanges don't quench thirst in 'book deserts'



David Hains
Metro | Toronto

For years now, charming little "take-a-book, leave-a-book" structures have been popping up on homeowners' lawns across Canada and the world.

Although many of us have noticed these conveniently late-fee-free libraries, fewer people know they're overseen by Little Free Library, an American non-profit with 50,000 registered mini-libraries worldwide.

The organization's stated mission is to inspire a love of reading, build community, and increase access to books, especially in so-called "book deserts," where public libraries and bookstores are scarce. Fees to register a book box start at \$49 US.

And some radical librarians say supporters of Little Free Library aren't seeing the bigger story.

In a study published in the *Journal of Radical Librarianship* (it's a real thing!) Ryerson University librarian Jane Schmidt and University of Toronto reference specialist Jordan Hale argue that the neighbourhood

mini-libraries don't live up to their goals.

Hale and Schmidt mapped out the locations of the registered take-a-book, leave-a-book fixtures in Toronto and Calgary. They found the sweet little structures are located mainly in majority-white, affluent neighbourhoods well-served by public libraries — not the book deserts most in need.

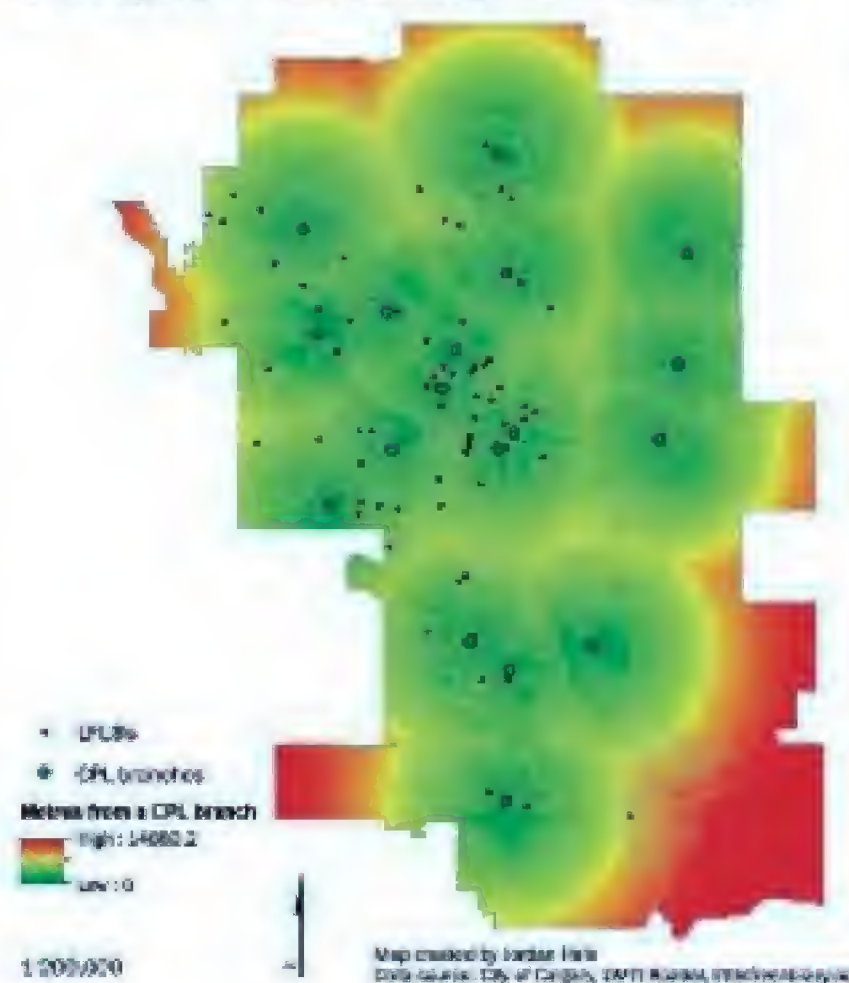
"Who could critique a little birdhouse of books?" Hale rhetorically asked Metro, adding that she has an issue with the Little Free Library organization, and not the idea of swapping and sharing books.

But her paper does just that. "We posit that in absence of any research or evidence of an issue to be addressed ... simply encouraging literacy in an already information-rich and privileged environment is hardly a heroic charitable act," Schmidt and Hale wrote.

The publication has been met with scorn from some in the library community, including on Library Journal's Annoyed Librarian blog, whose pseudonymous author wrote, "The entire article could have been boiled down to this sentence: Little Free Libraries claim to put books in places without public libraries, but that's not true in Toronto and only partially true in Calgary, and they are not politically radical and therefore are bad."

As far as watering book deserts goes, Little Free Library

Little Free Libraries® in Calgary Public Library book deserts



does provide no-cost depots through a donor-driven fund.

The non-profit told Metro they have set up hundreds of units through the donor program, including 40 in the past eight months in the U.S., and look to continue to add more.

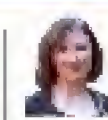
"Through these little libraries, millions of books are shared each year," spokesperson Margret Aldrich wrote

in an email.

Hale expressed concern that some jurisdictions turn to Little Free Libraries following cuts to full-scale libraries and that they are not an adequate substitute.

She encouraged people to support their local public library and literacy initiatives in communities that need them most.

WITH FILES FROM GENNA BUCK



JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

Elder statesman Stewart falls flat



Stephen Colbert got the old gang back together again but it didn't quite come together as a show. CONTRIBUTED

THE SHOW: The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, May 9 (CBS/Global)

THE MOMENT: The reunion

"Do you ever miss it?" Stephen Colbert asks Jon Stewart, his guest and former boss at The Daily Show, now retired.

"There are nights I impotently shout [at the TV]," Stewart says. "But that's not that different from what we were doing" on the show.

"It's like shouting into an Altoid tin and throwing it over an overpass," Colbert says.

Heavyweight Daily Show alums — Samantha Bee, John Oliver, Rob Corddry and Ed Helms — join Stewart on the couch to rally around Colbert. (He's fighting a right-wing effort to get him fired, after he used a crass term last week to describe Donald Trump's subservience to Vladimir Putin.)

Then Stewart does what he came to do — defend a comedian's right to offend: "The things you say, even if they're

crass...we can insult, but the president can injure... I do not understand why in this country we try to hold comedians to a standard we don't hold leaders to."

It was admirable. It was justified. But it also proved that it never quite works when Stewart appears on Colbert's show. Somehow the air between them goes flat.

Maybe it's because Stewart has become the elder statesman who swoops in to pronounce when things get serious. On his show, his sincere moments worked because they were carved out from the satire. Out of that context, he teeters toward smug.

Because today, comedians are not shouting into an Altoid tin — they have a powerful voice. Which can help heal the political divide, or deepen it.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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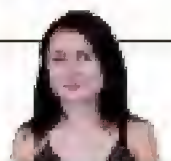
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Advice from a yoga superstar

HEALTH

Jessamyn Stanley is all about body acceptance

Melita Kuburas
Metro | Canada



Body positivity needs to be more than a "movement," says Jessamyn Stanley. Movements get co-opted.

"As a person of colour, as a woman of colour, as a queer of colour, I understand that everything good that we make is just taken," says the 29-year-old yoga teacher and author of the recently released book *Every Body Yoga*.

For Stanley, body positivity does not mean idolizing plus-size models like Ashley Graham and Irka Lawrence who, as beautiful and intelligent as they are, don't exactly challenge traditional beauty standards. ("Irka has a six pack!")

For the yogi, body positivity is a philosophy; a daily practice of telling yourself: "I'm OK today. Everything about me is OK. I don't need to obsess over being different," she explains.

"If you find that the way body positivity is being melted down is highly problematic," Stanley says, "just continue to live in your truth of body positivity and f— that

noise.

"(Eventually) it will just go away in the ways that everything dumb goes away."

It's this focus on self-acceptance that has made Stanley one of Instagram's fitness celebrities. Beginners who feel intimidated by yoga classes led by willowy instructors, and who don't want to spend a fortune on expensive stretchy pants, see in Stanley someone who doesn't pretend life is perfect and happy all the time.

With more than 300,000 Instagram followers and requests from fans on every single continent (except Antarctica) to come visit them, Stanley thinks part of her appeal is that she understands what it's like to feel like an outsider.

"If I walk into a random class and by the grace of God nobody knows who I am, the people who are in the room are like, 'that girl's a beginner. She's fat, she doesn't know what she's doing.' That is how people think," she says. "That mentality, because I still experience it, I'm really sensitive to it. And that's how every single person feels, not just larger-bodied people."

In her book, Stanley offers illustrated how-tos on yoga poses and sequences. She also writes about her first brush with the practice, and what it was like growing up overweight and struggling to shed pounds in college.

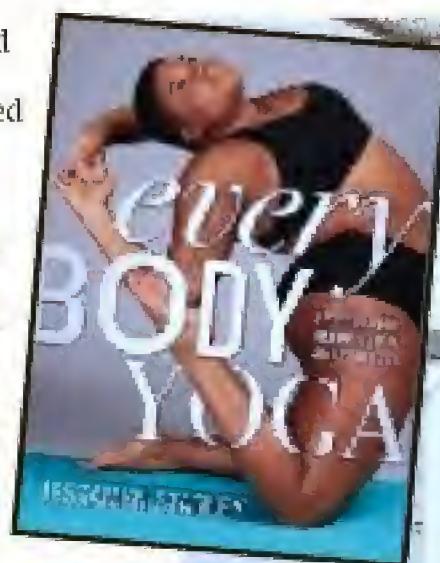
She describes how her

health-conscious and post-second-wave feminist mom cooked food she read about in "hippy dippy magazines" — kale smoothies, pilaf and chia seeds, before they were promoted as cool by bloggers. But when her mother suddenly got sick in 1995 she became bedridden for almost three years. Stanley's "beloved papa bear" father had to work long hours to support the family, and that's when she and her brother turned to high-sodium, high-calorie foods for comfort.

From that blue period in her family's life, Stanley finds "the building blocks that became the bedrock of my yoga practice," she writes in her book.

She thinks her fans are looking for someone who can recognize that life can be difficult.

"They're looking for someone who is normal and does not try to pretend like they're anyone other than who they actually are," she says. "I think that I could be smaller bodied and not black and people would still feel like, 'at least it's somebody being real.'"



Jessamyn Stanley, who is from Durham, N.C., has more than 300,000 followers on Instagram. Her recently released book *Every Body Yoga* shows more than 50 yoga poses and sequences. COURTESY CHRISTINE HEWITT

“(One of) the big hallmarks of body positivity is Ashley Graham, who is gorgeous, so beautiful, but so traditional — like Marilyn Monroe with a toffee-coloured-skin twist. It's like, where is the actual challenge to beauty standard here?” Jessamyn Stanley



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SOCIAL MEDIA BACKLASH

Dove's lost message in a bottle

The authority on love the skin you're in, Dove's latest Real Beauty campaign launched with the intention of once again celebrating body diversity, but the collection of specially designed bottles have some women taking offence at their efforts.

"Beauty comes in all shapes and sizes," Dove announces in a promotional video, showing how women's bodies, like soap bottles, don't have to conform to one mould. In this case, they can be categorized into six.

The limited edition designs, created by an advertising team



at Ogilvy London, come in a variety of shapes and sizes intended to represent women's bodies — from tall and thin to hourglass-shaped.

Some of the criticism online calls the shapes unrealistic, but most have ridiculed the brand

for comparing soap bottles to women's bodies.

The Atlantic's Ian Bogost has even gone so far, declaring Dove has "ruined its body image" with their latest Real Beauty campaign.

"Just like women, we wanted to show that our iconic bottle can come in all shapes and sizes, too," the company said on their website.

However, some are saying rather than "break moulds," Dove may have missed the mark on this latest Real Beauty advertisement. IRENE KUAN/METRO



MEET THE CONDO

Just a short drive to Banff from here

BRAND TOWNHOMES



CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

The grand opening for Brand's new show home is coming up this Sat., May 13 from 12 to 5 p.m. at 32 Horseshoe Cres., unit 101. The event includes the release of a new building. Buyers can expect to get it all, including well designed spaces, functional floor plans and modern colour palettes.

Location and transit

Tucked away in the rolling foothills of the Rockies along the scenic Bow River, Cochrane is a modern community renowned for its charming Western heritage. Enjoy the close proximity to schools and an array of nearby amenities with a short commute to Calgary.

Housing amenities

Modern, functional spaces designed for young professionals or growing families. Wide plank rustic laminate flooring, choice of shaker or flat panel cabinetry, stainless steel appliances and so much more. These townhomes include attached single or double garages backing onto green space. Brand is also pet friendly.

In the neighbourhood

This new community is just moments away from a host of amenities including grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants and shopping as well as a spacious park with a playground and pathway system. Of course, this great neighbourhood is also just a short drive from Banff. KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

+ NEED TO KNOW

What: Brand townhomes in Cochrane
Builder/architect: Birchwood Properties Corp.
Location: Heartland in Cochrane
Building: Two phases with a total of 96 townhomes
Models: Two- and three-storey townhomes with two or three bedrooms, all with attached front garages
Sizes: 1,055 square feet, 1,247

sq. ft. and 1,372 sq. ft.
Pricing: From \$234,900 to \$279,900
Status/occupancy: Under construction with summer 2017 possessions
Sales centre: 32 Horseshoe Cres., Cochrane
Phone: (403) 605-1400
Email: dahlia@birchwood-properties.ca
Website: brandtownhomes.ca



REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

1 STILL SELLING

Ezra on Riley Park: Slated to be finished by this summer, this eight-storey Birchwood Properties project is located in the highly desirable community of Hillhurst/Kensington. Visit the presentation centre located on the second floor of 1145 Kensington Cres. NW.

2 NEW SALES CENTRE OPEN

Steps in Bridgeland: This collaborative project is designed by award-winning architect Jeremy Sturgess and is set to transform the landscape of Bridgeland with its 122 contemporary townhomes. Visit the discovery centre at 824 1 Ave. NE.

3 MOVE-IN READY

i.D. Inglewood: Don't miss out on your final chance to live in the heart of historic Inglewood, full of amenities. Located at 1526 9 Ave. SE, contact the team to arrange a viewing at id-inglewood.ca/contact-us.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

From *chaos* to clutter-free

DIY and design expert Leigh-Ann Allaire Perrault found herself blushing every time she opened the door to the garage of the Oakville home she shares with her husband and two young sons. "I was embarrassed that neighbours could see all the chaos," she admits. So Allaire Perrault set to work, creating an efficient, attractive space she now jokes "may be the nicest room in the house." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Allaire Perrault now sees her garage as an extension of the house, and a room she can be proud of. ALL PHOTOS TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



1 ORGANIZE

The reorganization process started with a simple sketch by Allaire Perrault that designated "categories of tools, cleaning supplies, seasonal equipment, and recreational stuff I knew we wanted close at hand."

Using the ceiling for storage "freed up a lot of real estate," including the floor space necessary for two cars that had not seen the inside of a garage for awhile. Since the revamp, Allaire Perrault thinks twice about new purchases.

"I'm so happy not to have clutter," she says.

2 FLOOR

Investments in the redesign include new drywall and the installation of pot lights to improve visibility when doing chores. Allaire Perrault also wanted a hard-working floor, so she treated it with a sealant called Rocksolid Moisture Stop and then with an epoxy coating from Rust-Oleum that creates a marbleized, impenetrable surface (available in a kit at home improvement retailers.) Rubberized floor trim makes annual cleanings less of a hassle, as do moveable storage units.

3 WORK SPACE

Allaire Perrault created a pop-up work space that can lay flat when not in use by attaching a simple pine board to folding wall hooks. A peg board spray painted in a look-at-me yellow and edged in shoe moulding spray painted grey keeps frequently used items organized and accessible. Space above now contains perches for seasonal items, such as tires and bikes.

4 UPCYCLE

A \$20 Kijiji find, a cheerful-looking cabinet had been badly rusted when Allaire Perrault rescued it. She gave it new life by using Krud Kutter rust remover and then coating it with rust-inhibiting paint in a sunny yellow. Adding labels to each drawer put everything from scissors to string in their proper space. "It used to be simpler to just go out and buy a new hammer instead of searching for the one I knew was somewhere in the garage," says Allaire Perrault. "My husband kept asking me why I needed 10 hammers."

5 FUNCTION AND DESIGN

A garage must first and foremost be functional, but that doesn't mean it can't also be stylish, says Allaire Perrault. She sees the garage as an extension of the house that's often "an untapped opportunity for good design." Aiming for a calm and classic look, she used neutral greys accented with bold colours, like the bright yellow on the cabinet and the blue on the bike racks—an affordable and easy effect to achieve with spray paint.

6 DOWNSIZE

Sending unwanted items the family had collected over 12 years to organizations such as Habitat for Humanity's Re-Store marked the "first step that felt good," says Allaire Perrault. What remained had been sorted into piles on the floor and designated to either hang on Gladiator Garageworks wall racking or to go into lockable storage units. Lastly, Allaire Perrault calculated how many and what kind of hooks, holders and other hanging accessories (such as paper-towel holders) had been needed.

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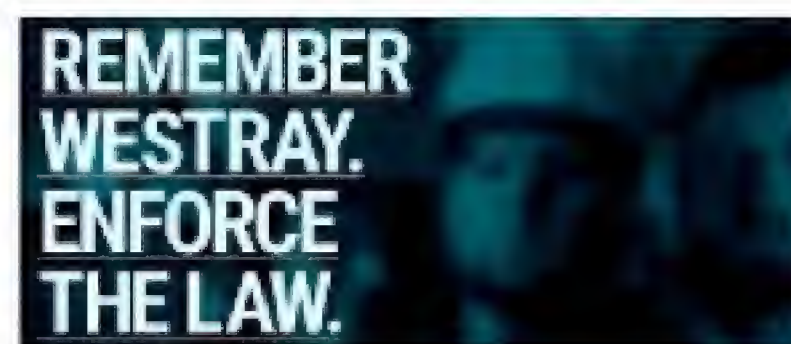
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2 Is secure, meaningful, full-time work in your future?



4 An ever green future for Alberta energy workers



10 Holding employers accountable



WORKING FOR A #FAIRFUTURE

Issue 1 • Volume 1

A SPONSORED FEATURE BY PEPPER MEDIA

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Strengthening the foundations of Canada's workplaces

When Ontario's 60 Loblaws Great Food and Superstores introduced fair scheduling pilots in a deal struck with the United Food and Commercial Workers union, the lives of part-time workers became significantly less stressful overnight. With advance notice on schedules from three to 10 days, employees could now book child care and plan family events with confidence.

Another deal between Unifor Local 414 and the Metro grocery chain guaranteed

“You can also profit by paying fair wages and treating employees with respect; earning their loyalty and commitment.”

Dr. Kendra Coulter,
Professor, Centre for Labour Studies,
Brock University

workers a minimum of 15 hours a week after one year of employment and 24 hours a week after eight years.

These are the kinds of moderate but critical measures that can change the lives of the four million Canadians – about 25 per cent of all workers – who earn \$15 or less per hour and often work in insecure, part-time positions. (Almost a third of younger workers are in temporary jobs.)

“Canadians are feeling greater stress about their own work lives and those of future generations, for good reason,” reported Dr. Kendra Coulter, a labour studies professor at the Centre for Labour Studies at Brock University. Low pay, erratic hours and little job security are

key issues as employers increasingly rely on part-time workers, often hiring new employees even when existing staff want more hours.

“Most people can’t get by with so few hours, particularly when combined with a low hourly wage. Unemployment is a problem and so is underemployment,” Coulter says.

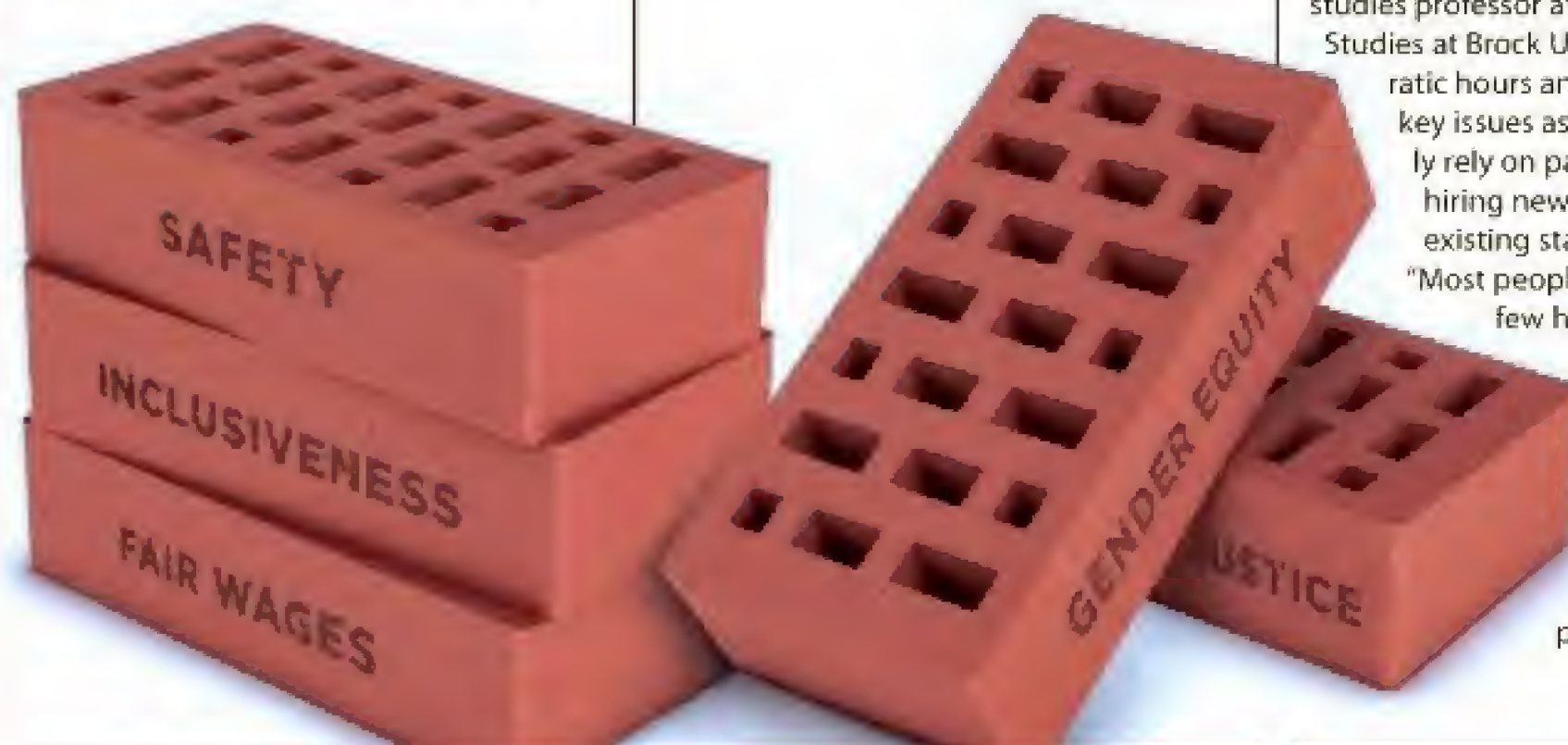
Fortunately, progressive-minded

companies are increasingly collaborating with unions to leverage the benefits of fair employment practices. “You can also profit by paying fair wages and treating employees with respect; earning their loyalty and commitment,” Coulter noted.

Samia Hashi, who recently helped to unionize her own workplace at Bell TV, agrees that unions play an important role in ensuring fairness. As a panelist at a recent Young Workers Conference, she said, “Although at times, meeting our objectives and bringing about change can be a long task, we must always keep at it – action can make a difference!”

“If more people have a bit more money, they are healthier, happier, able to contribute more fully to society and, of course, they spend it, usually close to home. Many employers in countries like Sweden and some here in Canada have learned these lessons and are prospering.”

Workers and governments also have critical roles to play in creating a stable employment future that offers benefits for all stakeholders, Coulter says. “Through commitment and political will, it is possible to grow the economy in sustainable, healthy and ethical ways – so people not only have careers, but can be proud of what they do.” ■



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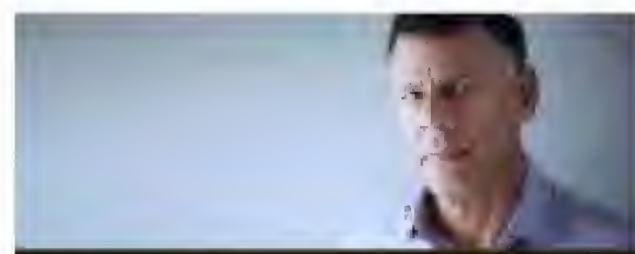
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OPINION

Making jobs better, for a fair future



by Hassan Yussuff,
Canadian Labour Congress
President

Feeling on edge lately because of work? Maybe you don't know when your next shift will be, or you can't scrape together enough hours to make ends meet. Maybe you're worried about getting sick and not being able to take time off. Or maybe you or someone you love can't find a job at all.

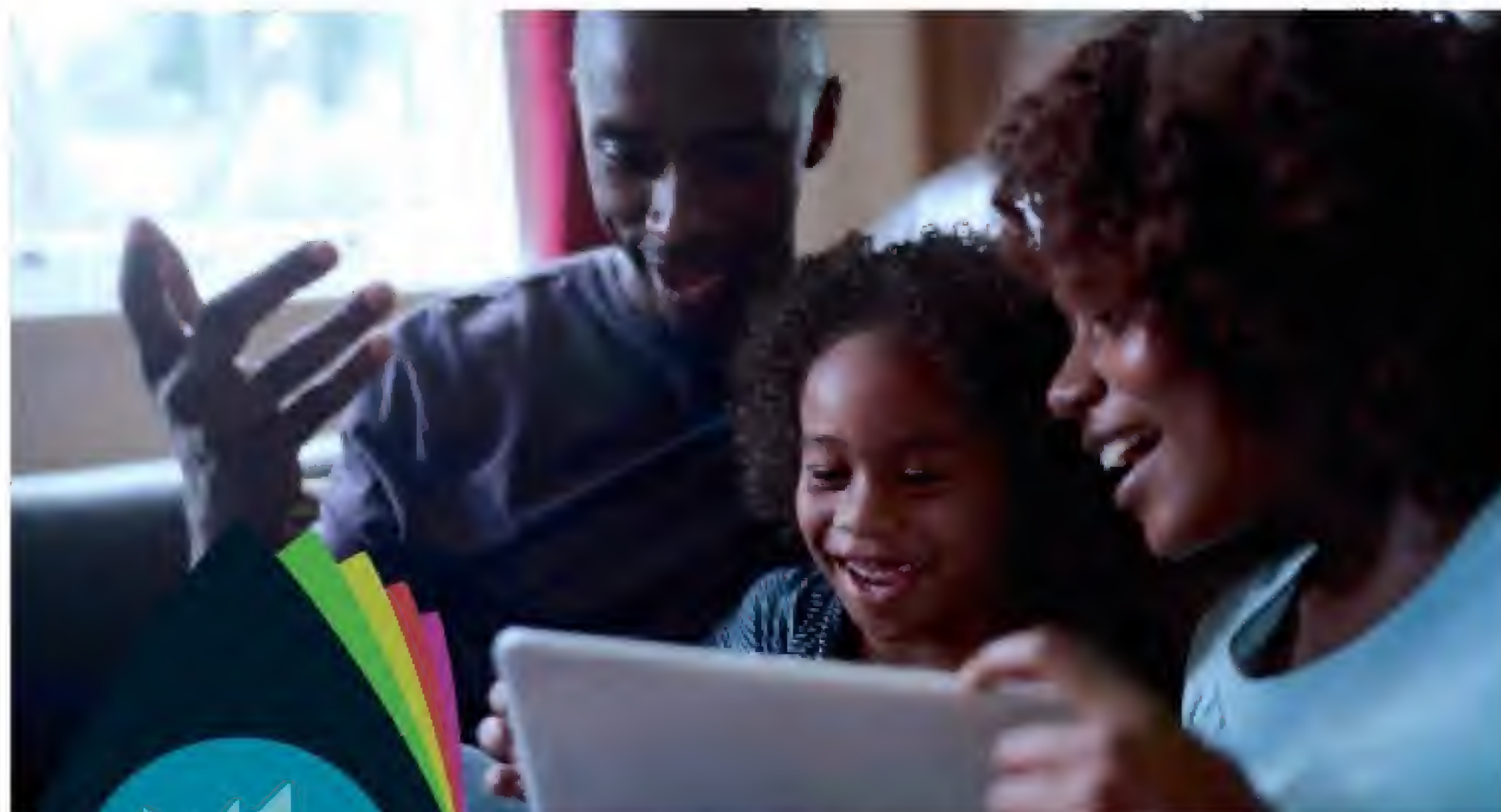
Unfortunately, more and more Canadian workers are struggling to establish their careers. Instead of actually sharing in the benefits of the much-hyped "sharing economy," average people are living precariously in today's labour market. For the first time in history, young Canadians are expected to earn less than their parents.

So I can't help but look at my own nine-year-old daughter with concern about what the future will hold for her. Will she be able to find secure, meaningful, full-time work? Will she be mired in a precarious existence for her lifetime? Is my generation leaving hers behind?

Many of today's young workers may never know the benefit of a lifelong career. Instead they will cycle through a lifetime of revolving door employment that is being dubbed the "job churn." Almost one-third are currently in temporary jobs, many work for multiple employers, and they are twice as likely to be unemployed. Despite being the most educated generation in history, young Canadians today struggle to find jobs that match their qualifications.

The consequences are more than just financial. In a recent survey by the Ontario Federation of Labour, nearly one-third of precarious workers said their most significant concern was how their work situation impacted their emotional health. That is a dramatic stress tax to pay for employment, and it isn't what my generation and my parents' generation wanted for our children and grandchildren.

Unions believe we can do better. We can work together to build a fair future, instead of relying on an unstable foundation of part-time, temporary, low-wage jobs.



Unions are working with federal and provincial governments to win better province-wide and national standards for workers, and help all Canadians build a better future for generations to come. ISTOCKPHOTO.COM

Fairness in our changing world of work starts with raising the minimum wage to at least \$15/hour, because working for a living shouldn't mean living in poverty.

Fairness in our changing world of work starts with raising the minimum wage to at least \$15/hour, because working for a living shouldn't mean living in poverty. Right now, Alberta is leading the way as they phase in a \$15 minimum wage by 2018, and unions are working hard to convince other provinces and the federal government to do the same so there is a national standard for all Canadian workers.

Next, workers need predictable hours and paid time off for illness or emergencies. Otherwise they're left making the same impossible choices between family, health and work.

Many grocery store workers have felt the reality of unpredictability over the past several years, but recently, groups have started working with their unions to tackle that issue. More than 10,000 part-time workers at Ontario's Loblaws and Superstores won fairer scheduling and better hours. These workers now get minimum hour guarantees, and 10 instead of three days' notice when they have to work. Thousands of Metro store workers won similar improvements, which makes achieving work-life balance much easier, especially for parents or those working multiple jobs.

Another way unions are building a fair future is ensuring no worker ever has to choose between losing their job and staying in a violent relationship. As a result of unions' work, the Manitoba government passed legislation last year allowing a combination of paid and unpaid leave to victims of domestic violence seeking safety from abusers. Similar legislation is being considered in Ontario and Saskatchewan.

As our workplaces and communities change, unions are stepping up to meet the challenges in new ways. Unions are working with federal and provincial governments to win better provincewide and national standards for all workers, like the recent new restrictions on federal unpaid internships, a ban on asbestos and better pensions for everyone.

We're working with environmental and community allies to develop strategies for a just and fair transition for workers in industries affected by climate change. Together, we're building a vision of a clean growth economy that creates jobs, keeps communities thriving and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Together, we can do right by our children and grandchildren – we can turn the tide on precarious work and build a fair future for all Canadians. ■



Making work better for everyone. For Canada's unions, it's a labour of love.

Part-time, temporary, low-wage jobs are no way to live now, or build a future.

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ENERGY

Green shift: Ensuring justice for Alberta's coal workers

With Alberta moving to phase out coal-fired electricity generation in the province, a coalition of workers who will be affected has created a blueprint for a "just transition" plan focused on jobs, affected workers and their communities.

The Coal Transition Coalition's report looks at past successes and failures of other jurisdictions and recommends the government establish an Alberta Economic Adjustment Agency to manage the transition.

"The workers who have dedicated their careers to keeping the lights on need to be supported as they face the closure of coal-fired electrical plants and associated mines," Coal Transition Coalition chair and Alberta Federation of Labour president Gil McGowan says. "This government is a global leader and innovator in climate change policies – it can also be a leader in creating a path forward for workers in industries affected by these policies."

The coalition represents more than 3,000 workers concerned about fairness in terms of pensions, severance, labour-retention strategies and other workforce issues, such as economic diversification.

Last November, the Government of Alberta promised \$195 million to support the transition.

In a statement, Economic Development Minister Deron Bilous says he has seen first-hand how phasing out of coal creates uncertainty for workers and their families.

"We are working respectfully and collaboratively with labour leaders and their members, power companies, the federal government and local governments to provide stability and build an economy for the future in coal communities," the minister says.

Bilous says the province worked with the federal government to secure an exception that could allow affected coal plants to continue operating past federally mandated end-of-life dates, by converting to non-coal-fired generation, including with natural gas.

The Alberta government has agreed to provide payments to three electricity companies – TransAlta, Capital Power and ATCO – to compensate for past coal-related infrastructure investments and provide options for them "to transition to new

“ We feel strongly that 'just transition' policy has to involve more than ensuring employers fulfil their severance obligations. We need plans for retraining and redeployment of people to other jobs. **”**

Gil McGowan,
Coal Transition Coalition chair and Alberta Federation of Labour president

electricity generating methods that would create long-term economic opportunities for the communities they operate in," says Bilous.

In return, the companies have agreed to fulfil existing and future legal obligations to employees, including severance and pension obligations.

The province appointed an Advisory Panel on Coal Communities to consult with economic development organizations, workers, labour and local leaders about the community impact of the coal phase-out – and how to best support coal communities through this transition.

According to Bilous, the "especially valuable" reports of the Coal Transition Coalition will be included in the panel's feedback to government later this year.

"We are very encouraged by the steps the government has taken so far, but we still need to do more work," says McGowan. "We feel strongly that 'just transition' policy has to involve more than ensuring employers fulfil their severance obligations. We need plans for retraining and redeployment of people to other jobs." ■



United Steelworkers 1595 member Debbi Labrecque, who works at the Highvale Mine west of Edmonton, is one of 3,000 Alberta workers to be affected by the planned phase out of coal-fired electricity. SUPPLIED

POLICY

What is a just transition for workers?



The transition to a clean economy – one that runs on clean energy instead of fossil fuels – holds great promise, but as Canada moves towards that goal, one group of workers cannot be forgotten: those whose careers have been tied to the fossil-fuel economy being phased out.

A just transition involves industrial transformation that will eliminate dependency on fossil fuels and completely overhaul the energy sector. It also requires policy that creates new jobs designed to reduced greenhouse gas emissions – so-called "climate jobs." Finally, it means looking out for the workers from the fossil-fuel energy industry, finding and offering appropriate compensation and, if needed, skills training.

All three pillars – industrial transformation, development of clean energy jobs and fair transitioning of employees – are "interdependent and interrelated to the point where all three must work together – one without the others won't work," says Tony Clarke, chair of the Green Economy Network.



25,000 jobs on the line

The last time the U.S. imposed duties on Canadian lumber, 15,000 jobs were lost within months. Canada's resource communities can't afford to take another hit like this.

Visit unifor.org/softwood and tell the federal government to stand up to the Americans and save Canadian forestry jobs.



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BY THE NUMBERS

Are you living on the edge?

Latest statistics portray the precarious lives of Canadians workers



2 million

THE NUMBER OF CANADIANS WHO IDENTIFY AS BEING SELF-EMPLOYED WITH NO PAID HELP*



1 million

NUMBER OF CANADIANS WHO HAVE A SECOND OR THIRD JOB*



1.2 million

NUMBER OF CANADIANS WHO WORK PART-TIME, BECAUSE THEY CAN'T FIND FULL-TIME WORK OR CHILD CARE*

SOURCES: *STATISTICS CANADA 2016 LABOUR FORCE SURVEY; ** STATISTICS CANADA, PENSION PLANS IN CANADA, AND LABOUR FORCE SURVEY, 1977 TO 2011

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CHANGE BETWEEN THE EARLY '90S TO 2011
IN THE PERCENTAGE OF CANADIANS HAVING A
REGISTERED PENSION PLAN**

ANALYSIS

The “gig economy”

Are companies like Airbnb and Uber the harbingers of a utopian 'sharing economy' where everyone benefits? Or are they lowering job standards and raising housing prices? Some say it is time to take a closer look.



In Seattle, for example, Uber driver Takele Gobena invested \$14,000 in a car after being assured he would earn at least \$25 an hour driving passengers. But with commissions, fees and auto expenses, he often netted about \$3 an hour. After failing to make even minimum wage, after working up to 14 hours each day for Uber and Lyft, Gobena was instrumental in unionizing Seattle's drivers. “We just want a voice,” he says.



Lis Pimentel, president of UNITE HERE Local 75, which represents hospitality workers, is campaigning for Airbnb oversight and regulation in the Greater Toronto Area. She says about 6,000 homes are currently listed on Airbnb in Toronto. “That is similar to three Royal Yorks and a Sheridan Centre operating with no accountability of any kind,” she said in an earlier interview.



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Over 78,000 teachers, occasional teachers, and education professionals are dedicated to defending and improving publicly funded, public education in Ontario. The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario knows that we cannot do this alone so we have embarked on a series of community forums and consultations about our schools. Our union, working in solidarity with communities and advocacy groups, is committed to building better schools and a more just Ontario.



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EQUITY

Addressing the gender wage gap

It's 2017, but Canada's working women are still making less money than men, a disparity that runs through all sectors of employment.

Although women in Canada are legally guaranteed equal pay for equal work – meaning that men and women working in the same job get the same pay – wage discrimination exists in jobs of equal value in fields traditionally dominated by women.

"Some jobs traditionally performed by women are given less value," says Vicky Smallman, director of women's and human rights at the Canadian Labour Congress. "For example, truck drivers, who are often men, are paid more than child care workers, who are often women."

The situation is even worse for women who are indigenous, racialized or who have disabilities, she says.

Pay equity can combat that kind of wage discrimination by requiring employers to

evaluate and compare jobs based on gender-neutral criteria, Smallman says. Ontario and Quebec have laws that require pay equity, but they only apply to sectors within provincial jurisdiction, and Ontario's only applies to public-sector workers.

"We want the same rules for federal jurisdictions, such as transportation and fisheries," Smallman says. "We want the federal government to table the proactive legislation suggested by its Pay Equity Task Force in 2004. They've promised to table it by 2018, but why not now?"

Unions, she says, are also negotiating with employers to address systemic discrimination.

"Just being part of a union helps narrow the wage gap," she says. "We negotiate fair wages for workers, but having legislation gives us tools to address systemic wage disparity." ■



The Canadian Labour Congress is asking the federal government to table the proactive legislation suggested by its Pay Equity Task Force in 2004, and bring pay equity to women. SUPPLIED

FAIRNESS

Seeking economic justice:

Pay equity, child care and domestic violence leave

PAY EQUITY: Despite the inclusion of 113 action items in the 2004 Pay Equity Task Force report, work traditionally performed by women continues to pay lower wages. The federal government says it will enact legislation by 2018. Why not 2017?

CHILD CARE: A national child care system would address sky-high fees and help parents, especially women, join the labour force. Let's get it done.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEAVE: A third of workers in Canada have experienced domestic violence. Paid leave helps victims escape without fear of job loss. Manitoba's government recently granted five days. The rest of Canada should follow suit.

Canada is stronger with quality public services

Members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada know first-hand the impact that years of cuts have had on the quality of Canada's public services.

We have urged the federal government to substantially restore and improve these services. We are encouraged by recent investments in food safety and transportation infrastructure, but much more is needed to restore the services Canadians rely on.

The federal government also requires a stable, permanent workforce with adequate resources in order to consistently deliver the high-quality public services Canadians deserve. Turning public services over to private companies to turn a profit and relying on workers in precarious jobs means lower quality services and higher costs to Canadians.

Our members are committed to

- keeping the food we eat and the medicines we use safe
- helping our veterans
- protecting our environment
- maintaining our national parks and historic sites
- supporting immigrants and refugees
- working to keep illegal drugs and guns out of our country
- making sure our seniors are receiving their CPP, Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement cheques

These are just a few of the public services our members provide. Supporting the people who deliver the vital services Canadians depend on is in everyone's interest.

In 2015, Canadians voted for the promise of real change. Stronger public services are part of the change they wanted.

A message from National President Robyn Benson, on behalf of 180,000 PSAC members.



Public Service Alliance of Canada
Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada

OUR MEMBERS ARE WORKING FOR CANADIANS EVERY DAY

The Public Service Alliance of Canada represents more than 180,000 workers in every province and territory in Canada and in locations in other parts of the world.

PSAC continues to grow and evolve. Our varied membership includes not only federal public service workers but workers in post-secondary institutions, in territorial governments and northern cities and towns, and in services such as women's shelters, among others.



Visit fairnessworks.ca to learn more about how unions support all Canadians.

THE WESTRAY LAW

Holding employers accountable for safety

In the early morning of May 9, 1992, an explosion at the Westray Mine in Pictou County, Nova Scotia, killed 26 miners working underground.

It was one of the deadliest mining disasters in Canadian history. The United Steelworkers lobbied for years and in 2004 won changes to the Criminal Code – known as the Westray Law – that made it possible for police to lay criminal charges when corporate negligence results in a workplace death.

Despite this legal change, to date only four corporations have received a criminal conviction, and only one has been sentenced to prison.

"When criminal negligence results in a worker's death, it is a crime and should be treated that way," said USW Canada National Director Ken Neumann.

Christian Bruneau has experienced the flaws in the system first-hand. His son, Olivier Bruneau, was killed in a construction accident in Ottawa on March 23, 2016. Almost a year later, the Ministry of Labour has laid charges against Bruneau's employer, but a criminal negligence investigation by police has stalled.

"Every worker in the industry has the right to assume that he will go back home at the end of the day and look after his loved ones. This is a right," Christian Bruneau said to the crowd at the Ottawa Day of Mourning event last year.

“Steelworkers campaigned long and hard to prevent these kinds of workplace tragedies, but if the law isn't enforced, employers can keep cutting corners and risking workers' lives.”

Ken Neumann,
Canada National Director, United Steelworkers

"That right was compromised when the workplace was not safe. Olivier did not come back home on [March] 23rd, and the life of his family was forever devastated," he added.

"Steelworkers campaigned long and hard to prevent these kinds of workplace tragedies, but if the law isn't enforced, employers can keep cutting corners and risking workers' lives," Neumann said.

The Canadian Labour Congress and USW are calling on government to mark this year's 25th anniversary of the Westray explosion by acting now to ensure enforcement of the Westray Law.

In response to unions' call, the federal government has committed to working

with the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) and its members, with employers, and with provincial and territorial partners on the issue. This includes doing more to ensure labour inspectors and law enforcement officials are trained in provisions of the law, and sharing best practices across jurisdictions.

In an online petition at *Remember Westray.ca*, the CLC is calling on provinces and territories to work closely with the federal government on an urgent action plan to close the enforcement gaps.

"There are clear steps our governments can take to prevent more families going through what the Bruneaus are facing," CLC president Hassan Yussuff added. ■



Top: The Canadian Labour Congress and the United Steelworkers are calling on government to mark this year's 25th anniversary of the Westray tragedy by ensuring enforcement of the Westray Law, which can hold employers accountable for workplace deaths. Bottom: Wreaths mark the National Day of Mourning for Canadian workers killed or injured on the job, Ottawa, April 28, 2016. SUPPLIED

ISLAMOPHOBIA

Standing against racism and discrimination

Unions use collective bargaining to push for fair wages and benefits, as well as advance workers' human rights and protect against discrimination.

In a recent case, a food-service sub-contractor at York University in Toronto denied a supervisory position to an employee because of her Muslim practices, including the wearing of a "hijab" head scarf.

The employee filed a human rights complaint, and her union, UNITE HERE Local 75, filed a grievance. She was then awarded a supervisor's position in the bargaining unit.

"We believe this positive outcome would not have occurred had she not stood up for herself and been supported by the union," says David Sanders, organizing director of Local 75. "This past

fall and winter, her and other workers' experience with racism and Islamophobia helped lead the union and campus allies to forge a strong coalition going into collective bargaining and this spring's strike. "The employees were also making pov-

erty wages, and we negotiated a breakthrough agreement with a \$15 per hour minimum wage for all workers," he says.

Concerned that the U.S. travel ban against primarily Muslim countries has further inflamed Islamophobia, the Ca-

nadian Labour Congress and the AFL-CIO in the U.S. jointly affirmed their commitment "to ensuring that our societies are welcoming and egalitarian, and that we pursue policies that respect the dignity and rights of all working people." ■

FILM

Virtual-reality film simulates refugee camp experience

Imagine living in a refugee camp in your home community. Canada's unions have offered Canadians a glimpse of that experience with a unique, immersive "Refugee Crisis" video. With a 360-degree view, the video simulates the harsh reality of being forced to flee your home as a refugee – as if it were happening in a Canadian town.

[facebook.com/fairnessworks.ca]

This online film is part of unions' ongoing work to support refugee resettlement efforts. "We felt it was important to help Canadians understand what people go through before they arrive here as refugees," says Marie Clarke Walker, executive vice president of the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC). "The Syrian refugees we are now taking in have lived in a war zone, which is a remote experience to most Canadians.

When you can live in someone else's shoes, you develop more compassion and empathy," she adds.

Canada's unions also raised over \$300,000 for refugee families, and the CLC developed a resource kit to encourage members to donate money and household items, and build friendships with refugees.



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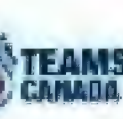
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LIUNA!



SMART



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- Strong political outreach
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To learn more about us, please go to www.pwu.ca

FROM THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HELP KEEP THE LIGHTS ON.



Status quo is Capitals' woe



The Penguins celebrate Bryan Rust's second-period goal during Game 7 of the Eastern Conference semifinal on Wednesday night in Washington, DC. PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

D.C. DISAPPOINTMENT
Washington will go down as regular-season winners again

Marc-Andre Fleury turned back the clock with a brilliant 29-save shutout, Bryan Rust and Patric Hornqvist scored and the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Washington Capitals 2-0 in Game 7 on Wednesday night to advance to the Eastern Conference final. The defending champion Penguins are eight victories away from another Stanley Cup and will have home-ice advantage against the Ottawa Senators. The Presidents' Trophy-winning Capitals failed to get beyond the second round for the seventh time in as many chances in the Alex Ovechkin era. Rust was again a hero in a crucial game for Pittsburgh, scoring his eighth goal in 12 career games facing elimination or with the chance to eliminate an opponent. Fleury looked like his old



self from the start of the series if not his 2009 Cup run in frustrating the Capitals. Braden Holtby made 26 saves in a losing effort. Despite it being the second round, this Game 7 had the feel of a deciding game of the Stanley Cup Final with the top two teams in the NHL facing off. After Pittsburgh took a 3-1 series lead, Washington roared back to tie it and seemed to have all the confidence. When the Capitals had the game's first four shots, Fleury was there to weather the storm and the Penguins responded with the next six. It took until 8:49 of the second period for Pittsburgh

to silence the crowd as a failed clear by Matt Niskanen got the puck from Sidney Crosby to Jake Guentzel to Rust for his fifth goal of the playoffs. Holtby and Fleury went save for save, with the Penguins goaltender getting the shaft of his stick on a shot by Ovechkin in the second period. It was so close Ovechkin started to raise his arms thinking he had scored, and Fleury's wide smile could be seen through his mask. It remained a one-goal game until another failed clear by Washington's Kevin Shattenkirk and Ovechkin. The puck ended up on Hornqvist's stick, and the Swedish forward put a backhand shot on Holtby 4:14 into the third to make it 2-0. Despite playing without top defenceman Kris Letang and starting goaltender Matt Murray all playoffs, Pittsburgh is moving on. The Pens were also without defenceman Trevor Daley before Game 6. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Oilers-Ducks Game 7.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Celtics put Wiz into must-win mode



Avery Bradley GETTY IMAGES

Avery Bradley scored a playoff career-high 29 points, and the Boston Celtics beat the Washington Wizards 123-101 on Wednesday night to take a 3-2 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinals. Al Horford added 19 points, seven assists, and six rebounds. Isaiah Thomas was also active, scoring 18 points and handing out nine assists. Game 6 is Friday night in Washington, where the Wizards easily won their two games. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Arsenal creeps closer to top-4 European positions
 Arsenal kept alive its ambitions of qualifying for next season's Champions League by beating Southampton 2-0 in the Premier League thanks to second-half goals by Alexis Sanchez and Olivier Giroud on Wednesday. Arsenal is three points behind fourth-place Manchester City, and four points behind third-place Liverpool with a game in hand. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays' Morales day to day
 Toronto Blue Jays slugger Kendrys Morales will be re-evaluated later this week after suffering a hamstring strain in Tuesday's loss to the Cleveland Indians. Morales left the game after experiencing discomfort in his left leg when he grounded out in the fourth inning. The 33-year-old leads the Jays with six home runs and 20 RBIs this season. He has a .244 batting average and a .727 OPS (on-base plus slugging). THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Real Madrid finishes city rival Atletico

Defending champion Real Madrid withstood an early onslaught by Atletico Madrid to reach a third Champions League final in four years despite a 2-1 loss to its city rival on Wednesday. Atletico, which trailed 3-0 after the first leg, scored twice in the first 16 minutes at the Vicente Calderon Stadium to move within a goal of sending the semifinal second-leg into an extra time. But Francisco (Isco) Alarcon netted a crucial away goal for Real Madrid before halftime to secure



Cristiano Ronaldo GETTY IMAGES

a 4-2 victory on aggregate and a spot in the final against Juventus on June 3 in Cardiff. Madrid will try to become the first team to win back-to-back titles since the competition's new format was created in 1992. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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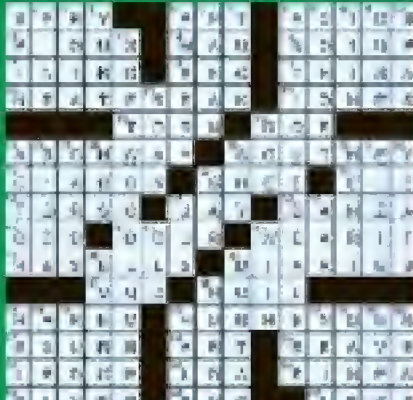


YESTERDAY'S

ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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7	2	1	4	9	5	3	6	8
4	8	6	3	2	1	5	7	9
3	5	9	7	6	8	1	2	4
1	6	7	8	3	9	4	5	2
2	3	4	6	5	7	8	9	1
5	9	8	1	4	2	7	3	6
9	7	5	2	1	4	6	8	3
8	1	3	9	7	6	2	4	5
6	4	2	5	8	3	9	1	7

Canada's new national sport?

HITTING THE LINKS

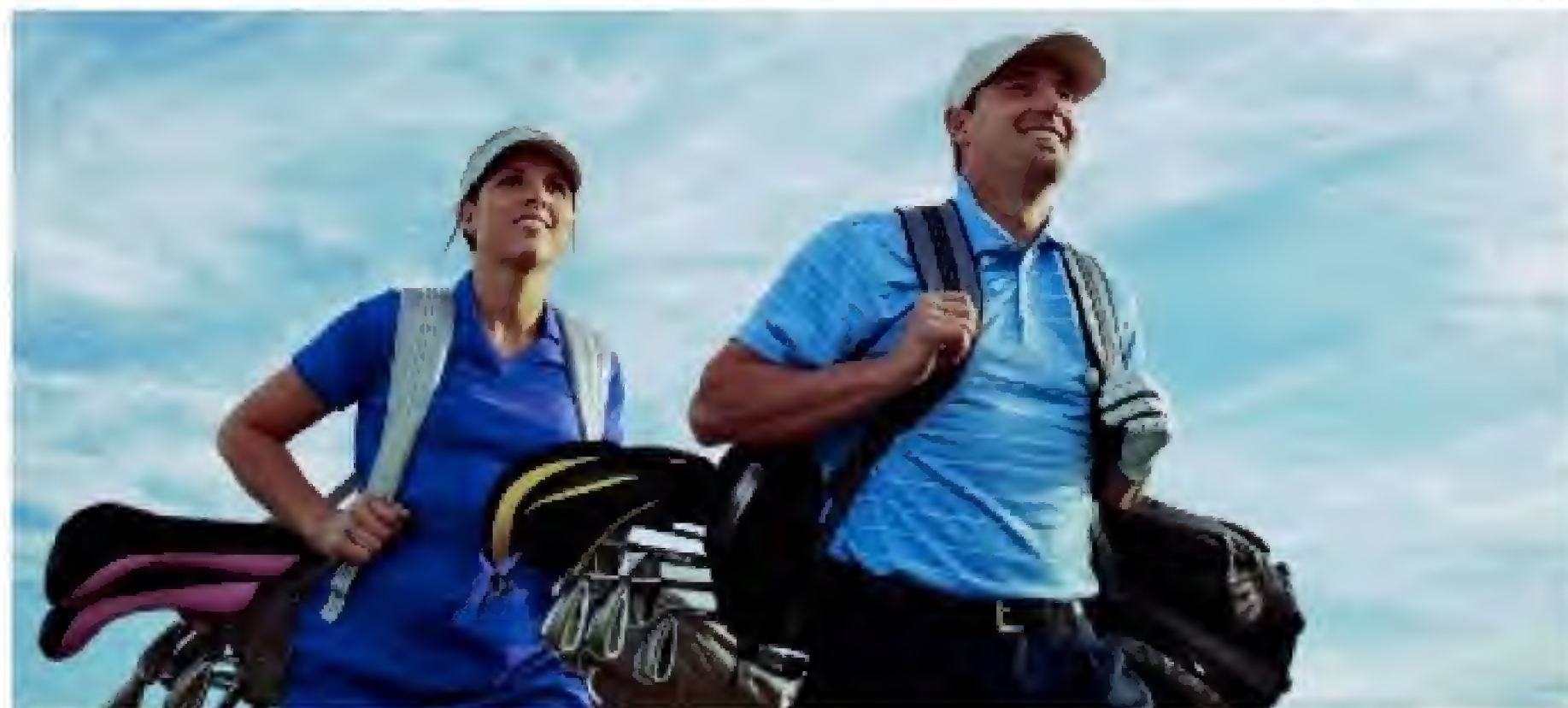
Nearly 5.7 million Canadians are playing golf

Krista Sylvester

Many people might think hockey is Canada's most played sport but they'd be wrong.

In fact, golf is the nation's most popular sport with nearly 5.7 million Canadians enjoying 60 million rounds of the game annually at more than 2,300 courses across the country — so what better way to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday than by teeing off, according to Golf Canada managing director of marketing and communications Peter Kirkpatrick.

With Canada 150 celebrations happening all year long, the Canadian golf industry has partnered with ParticipACTION in designating Sunday, May 28, as Get Out



There are more than 2,300 golf courses across the country — so celebrate Canada's 150th birthday by teeing off. iStock

and Golf Day and Canadians are encouraged to get involved with the game.

"It's very exciting to be a part of this initiative of promoting different activities to get them celebrating being Canadian and

golf is one of the highest participation sports in Canada," Kirkpatrick says.

"It's a good sport to be in and this also gives us a chance to get the notion of playing golf in front of new people and encourage

them to come out and try the game and that's important to us."

Canadian golf industry partners include the NGCOA Canada, PGA of Canada, Canadian Society of Club Managers, Canadian Golf Superintendents Association

and Golf Canada in addition to Canada's 10 provincial golf associations.

PGA of Canada CEO Gary Bernard says this event is perfect for new golf enthusiasts who have been thinking about taking up

+ CALGARY GOLF

Calgarians are encouraged to play on one of the city's eight golf courses on May 28 and record their score on the City of Calgary Golf app scorecard for a chance to win one of these prizes:

- 2 rounds of 18 hole golf
- A family round of Par 3 golf
- A \$50 recreation gift card

the game to get involved.

"I encourage everyone from coast-to-coast on May 28 to celebrate golf in Canada and take part in this great initiative," Bernard said.

The sport of golf is listed as number 14 on the ParticipACTION 150 Play List in addition to other golf-related activities, disc golf and mini-putt.

Visit golfcanada.ca/golfday for information on golf events occurring across the country on May 28 or use the hashtag #golfday-canada to share your experiences on Get Out and Golf Day.



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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Gingery Grilled Salmon and Zucchini



PHOTO: MARY VISNTEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Get your brain food with this salmon dish that is the perfect meal after a busy day when your mind is working at half capacity but dinner still needs to be made.

Ready in 55 minutes

Prep time: 25
Cook time: 35
Serves: 4

Ingredients

- 3 filets of salmon
- 2 or 3 small zucchinis
- 1 tsp grated ginger
- ¼ cup soy sauce
- 2 Tbsp rice wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp sesame oil

Directions

1. Soak wooden skewers in water

for at least 20 minutes. Whisk together the ginger, soy, vinegar and sesame. Place salmon filets in the marinade for 20 minutes

2. Remove the salmon from the marinade and cut the filets into chunks – maybe 1 x 2 inches – and set aside.

3. Slice the zucchini into rings and toss in the marinade quickly. Thread the fish and veggies onto the wooden skewers.

4. Preheat your grill or grill pan to medium high and wipe the grill with oil. Place the skewers over the heat and give each side about three minutes before turning.

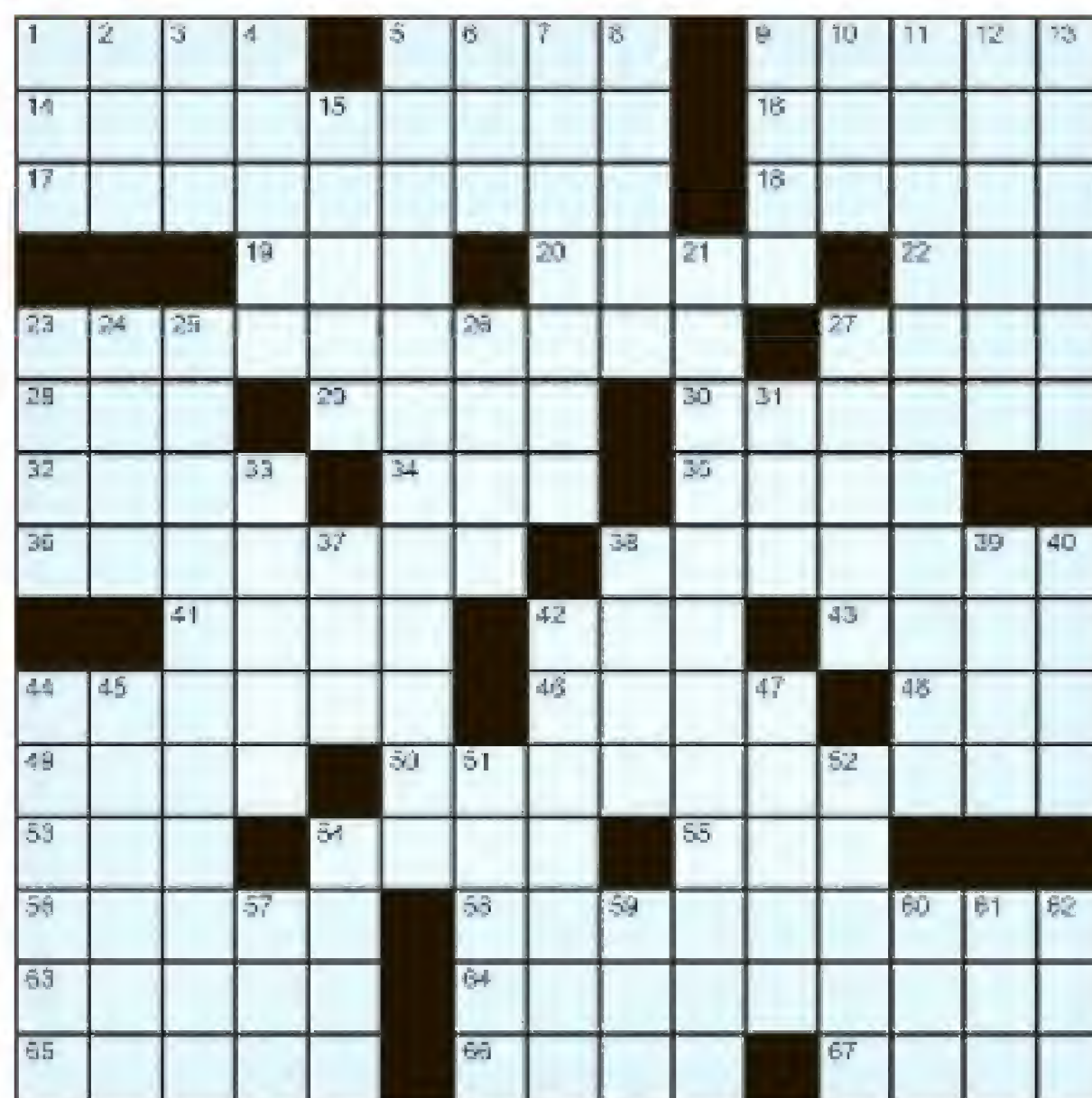
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Org. on Discovery Channel's "Mayday"
5. Seasonal bugs
9. Chef Mr. Lee
14. 1879 novel by Victorian writer George Meredith: 2 wds.
16. Dried plum
17. Duck-billed Late Cretaceous herbivore that once roamed #25-Down
18. Songbird sort
19. Mr. Begley Jr.'s
20. Oohs' pals
22. Cacharel perfume
23. "You may be dismissed now": 3 wds.
27. Popeye's sweetie Olive, and others
28. Mr. Harrison
29. Airline to Israel: 2 wds.
30. The Clash's "Rock the _"
32. "How _ Your Mother"
34. 1997 Sugar Ray chart-topper
35. "2001: A Space Odyssey" (1968) star Mr. Dullea
36. Shipping sea sludge, say: 2 wds.
38. Implore
41. Yesterday: French
42. Stallion's snack
43. One-of-a-kind
44. 'Nothing' in Rome
46. Dada artist Jean, and family
48. Mary _ (Cosmetics company)
49. '80s hit: "In _



_ Country"

50. Telethons, when carried by multiple networks
53. Blondie singer Ms. Harry, to pals
54. Bygone Ford cars
55. Swiss river
56. Ms. Ryan of "The

Beverly Hillbillies"

58. Super-small
63. De _ (Movie star Robert, and surnamesakes)
64. Required
65. High wave
66. Vexed vocalization!
67. Formerly

DOWN

1. Ulmost
2. Jennifer Lopez's "I to _ L-O!"
3. But, Latin-style
4. Prince's "Raspberry _"
5. #25-Down's paleobotany paradise: 2 wds.

6. _ Fail (Irish coronation stone)
7. Most times
8. Valued violin [abbr.]
9. Summertime location nos.
10. William Tell's canton
11. Cloudy day's

- moments of respite: 2 wds.
12. 7UP "The _"
13. Bring up those same old complaints
15. "In _ Trust"
21. Jet or Oiler: 2 wds.
23. Deuce-ace
24. Prefix to 'sphere'
25. High Arctic island located in Nunavut: 2 wds.
26. Composer Mr. Schifrin
27. Wickerwork material
31. Old Rome bronze money
33. Connecting/securing
37. Receive
38. Alberta: _ Ranch National Historic Site of Canada
39. Suffix with 'Pluto' (Rich ruler)
40. Canadian luggage brand
42. Cage's wheel-runner
44. Chuck Berry title song lady
45. Airline of Spain
47. Strikebreakers, in slang
51. Picking from a police lineup
52. Come about
54. _-majeste (High treason)
57. And not
59. PC monitor
60. Sailor, Jack- _
61. Dads to Jrs
62. St. John's International Airport code

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Communicating with others, especially with siblings and relatives, is difficult today because you're not sure what you should say. When in doubt, say nothing.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a poor day to make important financial decisions, because your information might not be correct. It's possible that someone is deceiving you. Be careful.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You feel tired and lethargic today. Don't worry, because we all have days like this. Don't be hard on yourself or judgmental of others.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Something going on behind the scenes worries you today. The strange thing is that you might not even know what it is. A lot of people feel this way. No worries.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You will find it difficult to assert yourself in a group situation today. Don't worry about this. It's probably best to sit back and see which way the wind blows. Play it safe.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is not a good day to be aggressive when dealing with bosses, parents and VIPs. There's too much confusion. Plus, at heart, you do not feel fully confident. Sit this one out.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't get ensnared in arguments about religion and politics today. You might not be sure how to respond or what to endorse. Take it easy.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Disputes about shared property, inheritances and anything that you own jointly with others will be confusing today. You won't properly defend your best interests. Avoid these discussions.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Discussions with friends and partners are discouraging today. That's because you feel like you don't know what's really going on. Don't worry — you are not alone.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Do not throw your weight around at work today — there's too much confusion, and people are unsure of what to do and how to do it. Sit back and go with the flow.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a classic day for confusion when dealing with romantic partners. Remember: Unexpressed expectations almost always lead to disappointment.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Be patient with and tolerant of family members today, because misunderstandings will be rife. You might feel let down by others. It's very likely that they feel the same way.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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